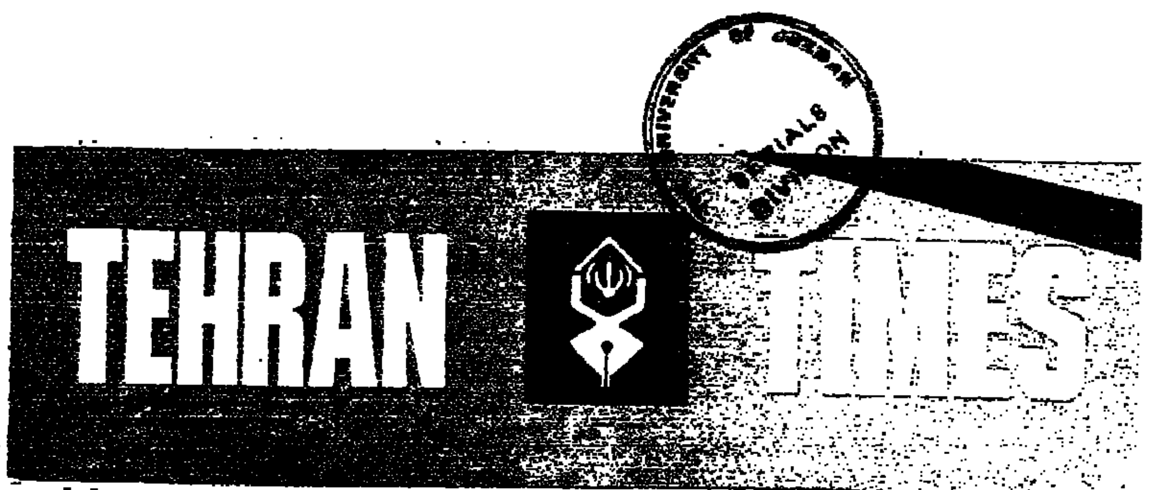


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Pakistan's Speaker Due in Tehran

TEHRAN (IRNA) — Speaker of National Assembly of Pakistan Seyed Yusuf Raza Gilani is expected to arrive here Wednesday heading a high ranking parliamentary delegation on a five-day official visit.

Invited by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, Gilani is scheduled to hold talks with President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Majlis Speaker Hojjatoleslam Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati on ways of expanding relations between Iran and Pakistan.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

Turkish Troops Kill 28 Rebel Kurds

ANKARA (AFP) — Turkish government troops killed 28 Kurdish separatist rebels in two separate clashes in southeastern Turkey, an official statement said Monday.

Fifteen members of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) were killed in fighting in Van Province while 13 others died in another clash in Hakkari Province bordering Iran and Iraq, the statement by the regional governor's office said.

It did not specify the exact dates or whether there were losses among security forces.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

President Receives Irish Senate Speaker



Mojtaba Takin — Tehran Times

TEHRAN (IRNA) — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani here on Tuesday received the visiting Speaker of Irish Senate Liam Naughten.

Naughten who is heading an Irish parliamentary delegation to Iran said his negotiations with Iranian legislative officials would serve to develop interparliamentary relations between the two countries.

He pointed to the volume of trade exchange between Iran and Ireland in the field of protein and hoped that the level of economic cooperation between Tehran and Dublin would be enhanced to cover the technological and industrial sectors too.

President Rafsanjani said exchange of views and promotion of parliamentary cooperation between Iran and Ireland would cause the two nations to become more familiar with each other.

He expressed pleasure with the current trade relations with Ireland and hoped for promotion of bilateral relations.

AL-SHARA:

Arab World Will Reject Israel's Attempt to Violate Peace Process

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Syrian Foreign Minister Faruk Al-Shara said Tuesday that the Arab world will reject any attempt by Israel to change the ground rules in Middle East peace negotiations.

"Any attempt to violate or change the basis of the peace process will not succeed," Shara told reporters after a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

He repeated Syria's demand that Israel return the Golan Heights, a plateau captured by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war and later annexed, calling it his country's "fixed position."

Mubarak met with Jordanian Prime Minister Abdul-Karim Kabariti and Shara to discuss the Middle East peace process in advance of a visit here on Thursday by Israel's new Premier, Benjamin Netanyahu.

It will be Netanyahu's first visit to an Arab country since his election last May.

Shara and Kabariti also held private talks before returning to their countries.

Netanyahu is to visit Jordan on July 25, and Kabariti was asked what his country expects from the new Israeli prime minister.

"We want to hear from him and not judge him and his politics through his statements," Kabariti said.

He added: "everything Netanyahu says is negotiable ... and both sides want to negotiate to see how many concessions they can get to reach a balanced peace."

The talks followed a visit to Egypt on Sunday by Palestinian Leader Yasser Arafat.

Jordan, Syria and the Palestinians are all involved in the U.S.-brokered Middle East peace process, and all have expressed concerns about Netanyahu's hard-line stance on negotiations.

Egypt, which in 1979 became the first Arab nation to sign a peace treaty with the Jewish state, often serves as mediator in the peace process. Jordan signed its own treaty in 1994.

Netanyahu's government has said it does not want to surrender the Golan Heights. It also opposes creation of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and refuses to discuss the future of Arab East Beit-al Moqaddas, which the Palestinian want as the capital of their would-be state.

An Arab summit called by Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia last

(Contd on Pg.14)

Washington Accuses Allies of Not Isolating Cuba

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — The White House on Monday accused European allies of ignoring U.S. appeals for help in isolating Cuba as President Bill Clinton debated whether to implement a tough anti-Cuba law.

Signalling its strong displeasure, European Union foreign ministers in Brussels agreed on a wide range of retaliatory measures to be taken against Washington if Clinton does not waive a controversial part of the Helms-Burton Act.

The president is to announce his decision on Tuesday after notifying key allies, leading members

(Contd on Pg.14)

Clinton Leans Toward Relaxing Helms-Burton Law

WASHINGTON (AFP) — President Bill Clinton was leaning Tuesday toward a temporary suspension of a section in the Helms-Burton law that allows Cuban-Americans to sue people who "traffic" in property seized by Havana, the White House indicated.

Though Clinton has not yet decided to suspend the controversial "Title III" of the legislation. White House Spokesman Michael McCurry made it clear the president was inclined to do so.

"If you look at the law, there are different ways you can apply the waiver, and if you look at Title III of the act, it's very clear what the options are because of the different ways you can apply the waiver provision itself," McCurry said.

"It's a hard decision, because we've got on the one hand a very strong desire to promote change in Cuba and on the other hand allies around the world that are very concerned about the extraterritoriality implications of the act itself. That's a fundamental tension, because our policy is at odds with some of our close relationships with allies in Europe, not to men-

(Contd on Pg.14)

Holbrooke in Bosnia

SARAJEVO (AFP) - U.S Balkan troubleshooter Richard Holbrooke headed to the region Tuesday via NATO headquarters in Brussels to put the country's faltering peace process back on track.

At his stop-over in Brussels, Holbrooke said the United States was "not satisfied" with the implementation of the Dayton peace accord he brokered last year.

He said he would make it "clear to all the parties (in Bosnia)" American dissatisfaction with the peace process.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Yeltsin Meets Gore at Barvikha

MOSCOW, Russian Federation (July 15): U.S. Vice-President Al Gore (L) gestures during his meeting with Russian Prime Minister Victor Chernomyrdin in Moscow. Gore arrived in Moscow to participate in the seventh session of a Russian-U.S. commission for economic and technological cooperation known as the Gore-Chernomyrdin Comission.

(AFP PHOTO)

MOSCOW (AFP) — President Boris Yeltsin began talks with U.S. Vice President Al Gore Tuesday in Barvikha just outside Moscow, where the Russian leader is on vacation, Interfax news agency reported.

The meeting had been abruptly postponed Monday when the Kremlin announced that Yeltsin had gone to Barvikha for two weeks' vacation to recover his strength after the presidential elections.

Gore congratulated Yeltsin on behalf of the American people on his "impressive victory in the presidential eletions," Interfax reported.

Yeltsin said it was not only his own victory, but a victory for the reforms and it was very important "for all the Russian people."

Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin also attended the Barvikha meeting.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Habibi to Visit Kyrgyzstan

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Iranian First Vice President Hassan Habibi will leave for Bishkek on July 29, Kyrgyzstan's Ambassador to the Is-



lamic Republic of Iran, Mukum Aseinov, disclosed in an exclusive interview with the *Tehran Times* here.

During his three-day visit, Habibi will confer with Kyrgyz President Askar Akaev and Prime Minister Apasjouma Gulov. Expansion of economic ties between the two countries tops their agenda.

The Iranian first vice president is also scheduled to visit Kyrgyzstan's southern cities of Sak-Suu, Jalal Abad and Osh, Mukun Aseinov said.

The visit will be Habibi's second to the Central Asian republic. His first visit was in August last year.

Referring to the necessity for expanded ties between the two countries, Aseinov expressed hope that Habibi's visit to Bishkek would pave the way for wider cooperation between Iran and Kyrgyzstan in all possible fields.

The Kyrgyz ambassador also disclosed President Akaev's plan to visit Iran in autumn. This will be his second visit to Iran this year. Along with presidents of 20 other countries, Akaev was here on May 13 to take part in the his-

(Contd on Pg.14)

Iran Well Equipped in Telecommunications Industry

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — "The Islamic Republic of Iran has developed so much in telecommunications industry and is well equipped in this section," Mohammad Nasim, Bangladeshi Minister of Post and Telecommunications, said here on Thursday.

The minister who was among the participants of the Third Meet-



ing of the Telecommunications Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference told the *Tehran Times* that the meeting had positive results.

Another member of the Bangladeshi delegation, commenting on the seminar's goals, said that the seminar envisaged several aims. Among them, the following are the most important:

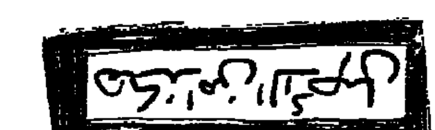
(Contd on Pg.14)

Condolences

Today is the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Reza (AS), the eighth infallible Imam of the holy household of the Prophet Mohammad (S). The *Tehran Times* condoles the Muslims worldwide on the sad occasion. See page 12 for article.

Today is also the anniversary of Iran's acceptance of the UN Resolution 598. See article on pages 4&5.

Editor



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In the Name of Allah

And thus do We make some of the iniquitous to befriend others on account of what they earned.

(HOLY QORAN) (6:129)

OPINION

Regional Cooperation, Antidote to Trade Blackmail

The Turkmen President, Sapar Murat Niyazov, is back for another official visit to the Islamic Republic.

Since Turkmenistan gained independence in 1992, Presidents Niyazov and Rafsanjani have met for 14 times. The two presidents have personally signed 16 protocols out of the 105 thus far concluded between Tehran and Ashkhabad. The number of agreements concluded between the two countries is proof of a strong political will and determination to cement ties.

The same holds true for other Central Asian and Caucasian republics, whose relations with Iran are no less intimate.

Unfortunately, despite the potential for mutually rewarding relations, rhetorics have had an upper hand where practicality would have been desirable. Memorandums of understanding are now gathering dust because the strong political will has not been matched by a will to get economic projects implemented.

The same fate holds true for other Third World countries. The eagerness of their leaders to confer and talk with their counterparts in other countries has become monotonous to the ear. Ideas and dreams die just as fast as they are aired. In developed countries the willingness to talk is matched by a determination to work.

To be more concrete, let us consider the level of trade between Iran and Turkmenistan. Statistics show that the volume of trade between the two is not quite satisfactory. At $50 million annually, the volume of trade is "peanuts" compared with each country's trade volume with most Western countries.

While it is true that countries in the West may have a bigger market, the trend is not satisfactory for neighboring countries with common aspirations and having access to each other's raw materials.

Perhaps the problem lies in the lack of information about each other's markets and the possibilities for development of potentials that lie open for Iran and Turkmenistan. The recent inauguration of the Mashhad-Sarakhs-Tajan railway only proves that much can be realized if only the countries in the region cooperate more fully by availing of each other's goods and services.

The same holds true for Iran's trade with the rest of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). What is needed is a realization that strong bilateral and multilateral trade ties will serve our interests better because we are nearer each other—in goals and aspirations.

Indeed, a dynamic cooperation among the countries of the region can work as a counterbalance to any attempts of the big powers at using trade to blackmail the regional countries into catering to their wishes.

The WTO is a good example to illustrate our point. Almost none of the CIS countries is a member of the WTO. Why join the WTO in the first place? The regional countries should first build up their own regional economic groupings and, when such economic groupings become strong enough, then they can join the WTO on their own terms instead of just acquiescing in any conditions imposed by the WTO.

In regional cooperation there is strength. Strength is the citadel against the bullying of big powers. Rhetorics are not enough. What the Third World desperately needs now is action in the form of bilateral or multilateral cooperation.

Floods Inflict Rls.28.6 bn Worth of Damage on East Azarbaijan

TABRIZ, East Azarbaijan Prov., (IRNA) — Floods triggered by torrential rains inflicted Rls.28.6 billion worth of damage on 11 cities in this northwestern province.

Head of the Provincial Natural Disasters Headquarters Ali Azarnejad said here Tuesday that due to the last case of flooding, which occurred bewteen July 9 and 11, two persons were killed and a loss of Rls 2.34 billion was inflicted on farms in seven provincial cities.

According to Azarnejad, floods also killed over 2,000 heads of livestock, washed away 6,818 hectares of farmland, destroyed 354 residential units, and ruined linking roads, railway and bridges in 11 towns.

Azarnejad said that, overall, 18 persons were killed and seven others injured as the result of the disaster.

Irish Senate Speaker Confers With Nateq Nouri

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN -- The Irish Senate Speaker Liam Naughton, currently in Iran on an official visit, conferred with Majlis (Iranian Parliament) Speaker Hojjatoleslam Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri here yesterday.

At the meeting, pointing to the abundant commonalities between the two countries, the hojjatoleslam underlined the need for the expansion of political, economic and cultural ties between Iran and Ireland.



Nateq Nouri also expressed hope that the relations between Iran and Ireland as well as the links between the former and other members of the European Union (EU) during the chairmanship of Ireland over EU will be promoted and that Ireland will play and active role in projecting the realities in the Iranian Islamic society to the European countries.

Expressing his gratitude to the Irish people and officials for their hospitality which he received during his visit to the Republic of Ireland, the Iranian speaker added that the exchange of parliamentary delegations between the two countries has proved quite effective in eliminating the misunderstandings and has helped to converge the standpoints of the two countries.

The Irish Senate speaker, for his part, described as significant the expansion of full-scale relations between his country and the Islamic Republic of Iran. He expressed hope that his country, while presiding over the EU, will be able to project the realities concerning Iran to other members of the union.

Naughton also stressed the expansion of parliamentary relations and formation of parliamentary friendship groups between the two countries. " We hope the Fifth Majlis will take steps to upgrade parliamentary relations between the two countries," he added.

Muscat Statement Marking Arab States' Firm Stand Against Israel

TEHRAN (IRNA) — Syrian Ambassador to Tehran Ahmad al-Hassan said here on Tuesday the tone of the statement of foreign ministers of eight Arab states gathering in Damascus has opened a new chapter in the Arabs' firm stand against Israel and understanding with Iran.

Speaking to IRNA, Al-Hassan said the foreign ministers of eight Arab states in their latest meeting in Muscat have put emphasis on Syrian firm stand towards Israel and the need for Tel Aviv to abide by the UN resolutions and the land-for-peace principle.

Al-Hassan said the tone of the statement towards Iran was modest and promising, unlike the previous ones.

The ambassador said, "Now, an appropriate situation has appeared to remove the misunderstandings between Iran and certain Arab countries and I hope that a new chapter will be opened between Tehran and capitals of Arab states."

Al-Hassan said Syria is interested in helping build good relations between Iran and Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf littoral states.

He added that the Zionist regime's officials pursue the 'divide and rule' policy and that they are making every effort to sow the seeds of discord among Arab and Islamic states and deepen some misunderstandings among them.

The ambassador stressed that the Zionist regime is dissatisfied with the tone of the Muscat statement because Israel is against friendly relations between Tehran and Arab states.

Iranian Film Institute to Cooperate With Hungarian Cinema, TV

VIENNA (IRNA) — An agreement was signed on Sunday on cooperation between Farabi Cinema Foundation of Iran and Hungarian cinema and television during the current visit of the head of Iranian foundation Mohammad Rajabi to Budapest.

The agreement envisages organizing film festivals in both countries, exchange of expertise in film making and publishing books on film making, and screening Iranian and Hungarian films.

Also, an agreement was reached about cooperation on film production and establishing contact between Iranian and Hungarian centers engaged in making films for the youth.

Over 22 Tons of Illicit Drugs Seized Acorss Country in 3 Months

TEHRAN (IRNA) — Over 22,000 kg of various kinds of narcotic drugs have been seized by the Law Enforcement Forces in first quarter of the current Iranian year (March 20-June 20).

Commander of the Law Enforcement Forces Brigadier General Reza Seifollahi, who made the remark on the threshold of the 'Law Enforcement Week' here on Tuesday, said that the confiscation of drugs by forces under his command in the above period showed a 20 percent increase compared to the similar period last year.

Seifollahi said that the forces also arrested over 1,743 smugglers and 6,802 drug dealers and rounded up 18,172 addicts in the above period and that a total of 411 vehicles and 112 rifles were seized from smugglers.

Moreover, he added that the Law Enforcement personnel managed to confiscate over 6,200 kg of narcotics in various operations in the Khorasan and Sistan-Baluchestan provinces last week.

Seifollahi stressed that the robbery cases have been reduced by 10 percent in the first quarter of this year, compared to the similar period in the previous years.

Between March 20 and June 20, he said, the Law Enforcement personnel confiscated Rls. 103 billion worth of contraband goods from 17 gangs.

He added that the contraband goods confiscated in the above period showed an almost threefold increase, compared to the similar period last year.

Maleki Holds Talks With Sudanese Speaker

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Iran's visiting Deputy Foreign Minister for Educational and Research Affairs, Abbas Maleki, in a meeting Tuesday in Khartoum with the Speaker of Sudanese National Assembly Hassan at-Turabi reviewed promotion of Tehran-Khartoum ties.

The latest developments of the world of Islam as well as issues of mutual interest were other topics discussed by the two officials.

Commenting on difficulties faced by Muslim nations, At-Turabi called for unity and consolidation of ranks of muslims throughout the globe to confront conspiracies of the enemies.

He further added that the Islamic Republic of Iran is the vanguard of the islamic movement.

Referring to Iran's cooperation in different economic, political and cultural fields with the Muslim states, Maleki voiced Tehran's readiness to expand ties with Khartoum.

Maleki arrived in Khartoum Saturday evening and was welcomed by Sudanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mustafa Osman.

Iran Ranks 9th at International Math Olympiad

TEHRAN (IRNA) — Iranian students taking part at the 37th International Mathematics Olympiad in New Delhi, India won one gold, four silver and one bronze medals, it was announced here on Tuesday.

The Iranian team ranked 9th among 426 students from 75 states contesting the Olympiad.

Iman Eftekhari won the gold medal, Alireza Salehi, Seyyed Reza Moqaddasi, Ruhoullah Ebrahimian and Morteza Foutuhi won silver medals and Hadi Salmasian was awarded the bronze medal.

Romanian team took the first place at the math Olympiad.

Avenues for Expansion of Tehran-Almaty Ties Explored

ALMATY (IRNA) — Iranian Ambassador to Almaty Rasoul Eslami and Kazakh Foreign Minister Kasm Zhomarat Tokayev in a meeting here Tuesday explored ways of expanding Tehran-Almaty bilateral and regional ties and cooperation.

The two sides assessed as "positive" the outcome of political consultations between the two countries and underlined the need to expand the scope of such consulations to cover various political, economic, parliamentary and judicial areas.

The establishment of multilateral cooperation involving Iran, Kazakhstan and one of other regional countries was among other topics discussed by the two sides.

They also called for settlement of disputes on the Caspian Sea through holding meetings among the foreign ministers or deputy foreign ministers of the Caspian Sea littoral states.

$20m Worth of Goods to Be Swapped on N.W Border Markets

ORUMIYEH, West Azarbaijan Province (IRNA) — Some $ 20 million worth of various commodities are expected to be exchanged on border markets of this northwestern province during the current year (having started March 20, 1996), said a local offical on Tuesday.

According to planning director at the office of the provincial governor-general, Nader Safar-Zadeh, due to new commercial regulations, the border markets on Iranian border lines with Turkey and Nakhichevan have become active.

He estimated that, by the end of the current year, goods with an overall value of five million dollars will be exchanged on each of those markets.

150,000 Tons of Tires to Be Produced This Year

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Tire production in the country will exceed 250,000 tons annually after all the tire producing projects go on stream by next Iranian year (to start March 21, 1997), reported the Farsi-language daily *Iran* Tuesday.

Director General of the Chemical and Celluloid Industries of the Industries Ministry Mahmoud Edalatian said that the tire manufacturing factories in the country produced 111,000 tons of various kinds of vehicle tires last year, up by 14 percent compared to the preceding year.

With becoming operational of the projects to expand the Pars Tire Manufacturing Plant, with an annual capacity of 20,000 tons, the Yazd Tire Manufacturing Project and another project in Ardebil, the production of tire is expected to total 150,000 tons during the current Iranian year. Therefore, an increase of 34 percent is expected compared to last year.

Once the tire manufacturing projects go on stream with full capacity, he said, it is anticipated that the produciton of tire for light and heavy vehicles exceed 250,000 tons, which exceed the domestic needs. The surplus will be exported, he told the paper.

By the end of the next Iranian year (March 20, 1998) and through becoming operational of plants producing primary materials for tire manufacturing such as carbon black, artificial rubber and zinc oxide, about 70 percent of the materials needed for the industry will be produced domestically.

On production of bicycle tire, he said, the total output in the country stands at 12,000 tons annually.

President of Customs Office in Baku

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Head of Iran's Customs Office Abdolhossein Vahaji arrived in Baku, yesterday on a five-day official visit to the Republic of Azerbaijan, IRNA reported.

During his stay, Vahaji is to review promotion of Tehran-Baku customs relations with a number of Azeri officials including his Azeri counterpart Kamaleddin Haiderev.

It is expected that while inspecting customs offices of Bileh Savar in the southern Azerbaijan Republic and Poldasht and Jolfa in the Autonomous Republic of Nakhichevan, Vahaji will discuss improvement of customs cooperation between the two countries.

Vahaji is to raise customs problems and ways of removing them with the Azeri customs officials.

UAE Banks Press on With Capital Expansion

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — United Arab Emirates (UAE) banks are pressing ahead with increasing their capital to maintain their share in the credit market and meet international adequacy standards, bankers said in Abu Dhabi on Monday, as quoted by AFP.

The commercial banks in the Persian Gulf oil producer are still using part of their net profits to build reserves in line with central bank instructions intended to strengthen the banking sector and avert fresh financial crises.

"From the balance sheets of most banks, you can see a steady increase in their capital over the past few years," a UAE bank manager told AFP.

"This has boosted their adequacy level and enabled them to safeguard their share in the local market, where credits dominate bank activity."

From 19.6 billion dirhams (5.34 billion dollars) at the end of 1994, the shareholders equities of the UAE's 47 banks increased to 21.6 billion dirhams (5.88 billion dollars) at the end of 1995, central bank figures showed.

The increase was in both the capital and provisions and it came mainly from the banks' profits, public subscription and extra funds from shareholders.

The increase boosted the bank's combined capital adequacy to around 12 percent at the end of 1995 from 11.4 percent at the end of 1994.

The level is far higher than the eight percent set by the Bank for International Settlement (BIS) as a floor for capital adequacy for banks worldwide to ensure they have enough funds to face financial problems.

The figures showed 15 of the UAE's national banks boosted their shareholders' equities to 13.78 billion dirhams (3.75 billion dollars) from 12.72 billion dirhams (3.46 billion dollars). The increase, funded by their record profits in 1995, pushed up their adequacy to 14.1 percent.

Other Persian Gulf Arab states have taken measures to force their banks to raise their adequacy, the ratio between shareholders equities and assets.

They hope this would prompt the BIS's Basle Committee to drop its classification of them as high risk countries in lending activity.

Basle, which groups the central banks in major industrial nations, has classified all developing states except Saudi Arabia as high risk countries, making it difficult for them to borrow.

Saudi Arabia, the world's leading oil supplier, was excluded on the grounds it was the fifth biggest creditor of the World Bank.

"Most UAE banks now have high adequacy. Others are trying to exceed the Basle level by expanding their capital base. There has been talk about possible mergers but I do not know what happened," a UAE banker said.

UAE banks were also prompted to strengthen their financial position after the central bank introduced curbs on credits two years ago to prevent a repetition of a severe bad debt problem which inflicted heavy losses on several banks in the mid-1980s and forced some of them to merge to stave off collapse.

Providing loans has remained the main activity of banks in the UAE and neighboring Persian Gulf states in the absence of other major investment possibilities.

Credits by UAE banks surged to 91.5 billion dirhams (24.9 billion dollars) by the end of 1995 from 83.7 billion dirhams (22.8 billion dollars). Investments stood at only 1.4 billion dirhams (381 million dollars).

"Last year was a busy year for banks as there was a strong demand for loans. That is why most banks made record profits," a banker said.

President Inaugurates Genetic Research Center in Tehran



Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani on Tuesday put into work a genetic research center, affiliated to the Welfare Sciences University of Tehran, IRNA reported.

Built at a total cost of Rls. 1.5 billion, the center includes the first fully equipped genetic laboratory which is unique of its kind in Iran.

After inspecting different departments of the center, President Rafsanjani said in a gathering of the center's staff "the Almighty God is pleased with you, who have devoted your lives to serve the needy people and alleviate their pains and sufferings."

The president added that prevention is of great importance in sciences in today's world and any negligence in this regard can be considered a move against human kind.

The inauguration of the center has paved the way for research works and better utilization of the avialable potentials, said the president, adding that experiences acquired by Iranian scientists residing abroad should be used by the genetic center.

President Rafsanjani, referring to the importance of general medical insurance in Iran and comparing it to similar plans in other countries, said that medical insurance plans in Iran, unlike those in other countries, cover many expensive medical operations.

Rafsanjani stressed the need for the center to employ more female staff who, he said, play a key role in the fields of health care and welfare.

APEC Ministers Step Closer to Global Free Trade

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - APEC trade ministers agreed Tuesday to implement commitments under the Uruguay Round of Global Trade talks before the World Trade Organisation meets in December, according to a copy of an official statement obtained in Christchurch, New Zealand, as quoted by AFP.

The statement, to be released later by New Zealand Trade Minister Philip Burdon, said the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation group ministers had also considered further trade liberalization initiatives that could be undertaken beyond the WTO's built in agenda.

"We agreed that consideration should be given to further work on improvement of market access for industrial products across the board," it added.

Almost 300 delegates of the 18 APEC economies, led by the trade ministers, have been meeting to formulate plans by APEC to influence the WTO's first ministerial meeting in Singapore.

APEC members had committed themselves under last November's Osaka summit agreement to the "full and effective implementation" of their respective commitments made when the Uruguay Round of Global Trade talks concluded in late 1994.

"We undertook to ensure that we were fully up to date with our implementation commitments by the time of the Singapore ministerial conference," the statement said.

The two-day meeting, which due to finish Tuesday afternoon, also attempted to prepare much of the groundwork for the summit of APEC leaders in the Philippines port of Subic Bay in November.

The ministers appeared to give their backing to outstanding applications for membership of the WTO, two of which are from APEC members, China and Taiwan.

"We expressed our support for achieving universality of WTO membership consistent with observance of the rules of the multilateral trading system and based on substantive and commercially meaningful market access commitments," it said.

"We consider it is now especially important that regional and multilateral approaches to trade and investment liberalization support and reinforce each other."

The ministers said they were determined to contribute to the success of the WTO meeting, both through approaches agreed in Christchurch and by building on them in preparations for the Manila summit.

Japan Urged to Extend ODA to Pvt. Sector in India

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The Union Power Secretary P. Abraham has urged the Japanese government to extend its Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the private sector power projects in India.

"If ODA loans are made available for private projects, the target of 5,000 mw of new capacity, which the Japanese Consortia of Trading Houses and Manufacturers want to set up in India, can be reached quickly," Abraham said, as reported by PTI.

Inaugurating a seminar on "Japan's ODA - a Broadening Future", organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in New Delhi, the secretary pointed out Japanese assistance through ODA was now limited to public sector power projects.

Sakutaro Tanino, Ambassador of Japan in India and a visiting high level Japanese delegation attended the seminar.

The power secretary also said the Japanese government was thinking of allowing Japanese private co-investment in ODA-assisted power projects.

India Ranks Low in Human Development

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - India ranks 135th in human development below China which is 109th while Canada tops the list followed by the United States, a United Nations report says.

The report, complied by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), shows that 29 percent people in South Asia, including India and its neighbours but excluding Sri Lanka, live in severe poverty when only income is taken into consideration.

But 62 percent are living in conditions that can negatively affect their future.

For the latter category, the report takes into account, what it calls, capability poverty measure, which attempts to find potential poverty looking at factors like percentage of children under five who are underweight.

The proportion of unattended births, the number of children in school and rate of female literacy.

The report, which UNDP releases annually, estimates average capital income for India at 1220 dollars but the income of poorest fifth is only 537 dollars.

However the ranks change when the status of women is taken into consideration.

The United States drops to fourth position behind Sweden, Canada and Norway and Japan to 12th place. But China does better in this sector as its position goes up to the 79th place.

Global Gap Between Rich and Poor Is Widening

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The global gap between the rich and poor is widening everyday and the very rich are getting richer, the United Nations Information Center quoting the Human Development Report 1996 said here.

The basic feature of the report, the human development index, ranks countries on the basis of life expectancy, education and basic purchasing power. Specific indexes focus on detailed aspects of development, such as the relationships between wealth, poverty and social investment, employment, and the role of women.

The report shows that despite a dramatic surge in economic growth in 15 countries over the past three decades, 1.6 billion peple were left behind and are worse off then they were 15 years ago.

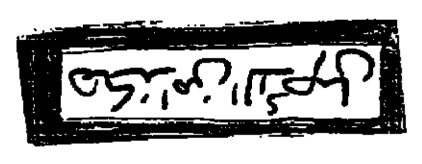
"The world has become more economically polarized between countries and within countries," says James Gustave Speth, administrator of UNDP, in a foreword to the report.

"If the present trends continue, economic disparities between industrial and developing nations will move from inequitable to inhuman," he said.

The 229-page report says that the economic growth becomes real to people only when they can find productive and well-paid work adding, "economic growth does not automatically create jobs."

A study of 69 countries showed that of the 46 countries with economic growth, only 27 of them saw employment grow, the report said, adding 19 or more than 40 percent experience jobless growth.

The Human Development Report 1996, published by Oxford University Press for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), stresses that it is people and not the economy that need the attention of world leaders. "Economic growth often does not translate into improvement of people's lives," it said.



Iraq's Aggression Against Iran in Retrospect

On the Occasion of July-17 Anniversary of Accepting Resolution 598

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — On September 21, 1980, the Iraqi regime launched its full-scale offensive against the Islamic Republic of Iran. What the Iraqi government did could easily be defined as 'aggression', since according to the definitions presented by the resolution on 'defining the aggression' passed by the UN General Assembly in 1974, the Manila Declaration and the UN Charter, the Iraqi offensive could only be called an aggression.

In fact, by unilaterally abrogating the Beghdad 1975 Treaty, which was based on Algiers Declaration, the Iraqi government was seeking the following objectives, which had been on several occasions announced by the Ba'thist leaders:

1. Occupation of the Lesser Tunb, the Greater Tunb and Abu-Mousa islands.

Ever since the early 1979, the Iraqi regime had been making hints in this regard. At a press conference on July 20, 1980, two months before Iraq's aggression against Iran, the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein said, "Now, we possess enough military power to retake three Arab islands occupied by Iran."

The former Iraqi Foreign Minister Sadoon Hamadi had also said, "Iraq does not recognize the unlawful occupation of the three Arab islands by Iran, does not accept the outcome of the occupation and asks Iran to withdraw from the islands as soon as possible."

The former Iraqi National Paliament speaker, Naeem Haddad, said on May 27, 1980, "We do not agree to mediate beween Iran and Iraq and demand the annulment of the Algiers Treaty and restoration of Iraq's sovereignty over Arvand River and Iran's withdrawal from the three Arab islands in the Persian Gulf, which have been in Iranian occupation since the time of the ousted Shah."

2. Regaining the lands which Iraqi government claimed had been seized by Iran and were supposed to be returned to Iraq based on the 1975 Treaty.

The question is, in case of disagreement between the two countries on implementation of the 1975 Treaty, what justifies Iraq's action of resorting to force?

Clause 6 of the treaty stipulated that, in case of disagreement between the two sides on carrying out the accord, as the first stage and on the request of one of the parties, the dispute would be settled through direct negotiations held within two months after the request. If that fails, the two sides would seek to resolve their dispute within three months through the good offices of a third party. If that also fails, or if one of the parties refuses to solve the issue through the good offices of a third party, the matter would be referred to arbitration within one month after the failure of or refusal of either party to agree to a third party's good offices.

The manner of arbitration has also been clarified by an amendment to the treaty. Thus no place has been left for any ambiguities.

However, the Iraqi government did not apply any of the above solutions and only resorted to aggression in order to resolve the issue.

What Iraq did was also an open violation of the UN Charter, which does not permit resorting to force in order to resolve the disputes over the treaties signed by the two sides.

3. Restoring the rights of Iranian minorities.

Iraq regarded the Iranian Khuzestan Province as part of the great Arab land. Furthermore, as it was frequently stressed by the Iraqi officials, Iraq supported the formation of governments run by Iranian minorities, particularly in Azarbijan, Baluchestan and Kurdestan.

The Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, in an address broadcast on March 14, 1981, said, "We would like the Iranian minorities, particularly the Kurdish, Baluchi and Azari nations, to know that we are prepared to establish strong ties with them and help them restore their national rights. We are also prepared to provide them with any kind of help including arms supplies. This in not mere rhetoric but a firm decision."

4. Gaining control over Arvand River.

The Iraqi state news agency on April 21, 1980, said, "Iraq insists on retaking the three Arab islands which have been in Iranian occupation since 1971. It also intends to take back part of the Arvand River which has been controlled by Iran since 1975."

Naeem Haddad, a few months before Iraq's aggression few months before Iraq's aggression against Iran, had said, "We do not consent to the mediation between Iran and Iraq and insist on the abrogation of the Algiers Treaty and restoring Iraq's sovereignty over Arvand River and Iran's withdrawal from the three Arab islands in the Persian Gulf."

One and a half months after Iraq's waging a full-scale war on Iran, the Iraqi president, on November 10, 1980, said, "Iran must wholly, and not partly, recognize our rights to the Arvand River and the lands that it has usurped. The Arvand River must become Arabic and Iraqi, as it was in the past."

It is worth noting that the convention on the law of the seas, regarding the legal regime of the border rivers, clearly states that the Talweg Line is the basis for dividing the river and Iraqi regime's claims have no legal basis.

Moreover, according to Clause 2 of the 1975 Treaty and the protocol on determining the river border between Iran and Iraq, the border between the two countries in Arvand River, from the city of Khin in Iraq up to the sea, has been decided to be the river's Talweg Line.

The Iranian government had always insisted that the border between the two countries in Arvand River had to be determined according to the international law. Ever since 1969, Iran had practically recognized the Talweg Line as the border between the two countries, and the 1975 Treaty only added legal force to what Iran was already complying with.

Thus, by summing up the reasons for Iraq's aggression against Iran, it becomes clear that none of them were corroborated by international law or even rational principles.

In 1991, an American official running for the head of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Robert Gates, acknowleged to the intelligence cooperation between Washington and Baghdad during the Iraqi imposed war against Iran.



He said the CIA tried to help Iraq by providing it with some classified information. Gates reiterated that the intelligence cooperation with Iraq was totally within the framework set up by the U.S. National Security Council. "The members of the U.S. National Security Council received part of their information on Iran from Israel," he added.

The clear statement of Robert Gates, a politician who was out to head the CIA, cleary contradicted George Bush and his predecessor Ronald Reagan, who had claimed that the U.S. had adopted an impartial policy during the Iraqi imposed war against Iran. During the past decade, the U.S. officials have repeatedly been trying to portray themselves as having been impartial during the war and in the face of the postwar deadlocks.

Although some incidents such as the attack launched by the U.S. forces on the Iranian oil platforms and the intentional downing of an Iranian airliner flying over the Persian Gulf, which took place in the course of the Iraqi imposed war, bore witness to the U.S. partiality, and although the U.S. move to eliminate Iraq from the list of the states

(Contd on Pg. 5)



Italy's Podenzana wins 15th stage

VILLENEUVE-SUR-LOT, France (AP) — Veteran professional Massimo Podenzana of Italy won the 15th stage of the Tour de France Monday, in his first year taking part in cycling's greatest race.

Denmark's Bjarne Riis retained the overall lead in the annual month-long road race.

Six riders broke early and held the lead throughout the hot day on the 176-kilometer (110-mile) leg from Brive-la-Gaillarde to Villeneuve-sur-Lot in France's southern Massif central region.

The 34-year-old Podenzana, a two-time Italian National champion, pulled away in the final stretch to take the stage in three hours, 54 minutes, 52 seconds.

"Well, I'm not that old and we've had a lot of problems with the (Carrera) team ... but it's a great thing for me today," said Podenzana, who won the Italian National Championship in 1993 and 1994.

Podenzana sprinted in the final five kilometers (three miles) and finished ahead of Giuseppe Guerini of Italy and Peter Van Petegem of Belgium, who crossed the line third.

The overall leaders rode slowly through the rolling hills of the stage and finished 5 minutes and 38 seconds behind Podenzana's winning time.

American George Hincapie of the Motorola team didn't start Monday after suffering a serious fall Sunday when he blew out a tire and went down hard on a steep descent midway through the stage.

With Hincapie's departure Monday and Lance Armstrong's on July 5, Frankie Andreu is the only American remaining in the tour. He finished in 106th place with the main pack of riders Monday and sits in 121st position overall at 1 hour, 50 minutes, 32 seconds behind Riis.

Riis and his strong Telekom team have controlled the overall lead since the 32-year-old Dane took the Yellow Jersey July 8 in a weather-shortened stage through the French Alps.

The tour heats up Tuesday and Wednesday for a pair of climbing stages in the Pyrenee Mountains. After a week in France's Massif Central, challengers will likely go after Riis' lead in the steep mountains.



VILLENEUVE-SUR-LOT, France (July 15): Italian Massimo Podenzana jubilates as he crosses the finish line of the 15th stage of the Tour de France in Villeneuve-sur-Lot, south west France. (AFP PHOTO)

Olympics Summary

Tehran Times Service

Drechsler Out of Atlanta

BONN — Olympic long jump champion Heike Drechsler withdrew from Germany's team for Atlanta on Monday, saying she had not sufficiently recovered from a torn knee ligament.

"It's not my style to go into a something if I'm not 100 per cent fit and can't give my all," Drechsler said in a statement released by her management agency.

Defector Makes Games

ATLANTA — As a teenager, fighting under a different name, U.S. assistant Olympic boxing coach Jesse Ravelo was a sporting hero in Fidel Castro's Cuba.

Today, almost 30 years after he defected from communism to capitalism, the former Cuban national champion is helping challenge Cuba's claim to be lords of the ring.

Karelin Will Dominate

ATLANTA — Cliches were invented to help describe athletes like Aleksandr Karelin and the one that springs to mind is gentle giant.

The Russian is huge, possibly the most physically imposing man at the Atlanta Olympics. A block of reinforced human concrete with a neck like a sequoia tree, the super-heavyweight has dominated Greco-Roman wrestling at the last two Olympics.

Atlanta Boasts Record

ATLANTA — Women were first allowed into the Olympics in 1900 when just 15 competed in golf and tennis. At Atlanta's Centenary Games, one in three of the athletes is a woman.

A record 3,779 women will take part in the 1996 Games compared to 6,582 men. That is 1,000 more women than in Barcelona in 1992.

Athletes Need Security

ATLANTA — Security is a hands-on affair at the Atlanta Olympics — it is the only way you will get in.

To obtain their identity passes for the games, athletes have the contour of their hand digitally recorded and coded into the card by a hand geometry scanner.

Woman Athlete Chosen as Iran's Flag-Bearer in Atlanta

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Iran's first woman athlete to take part in an Olympic Games since the 1979 Islamic Revolution has been assigned to carry her country's flag during the opening ceremony in Atlanta.

"As a moslem woman, it is an honor for me to bear the flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Atlanta," Lida Fariman, a champion in marksmanship and the only female member of the Iranian delegation, said before departing for the United States.

Iranian women athletes can participate in foreign games in only five areas which allow them to observe the Islamic dress code. They are: horseriding, skiing, shooting, chess and sports for the handicapped.

"We must show the foreign media that Iranian women, veiled and fully respecting Islamic criteria, could actively take part in all sports domains," Fariman said.

The rest of the Iranian delegation, which arrived in Atlanta on Monday, is composed of nine champion in freestyle wrestling, one in Graeco-Roman wrestling, four boxers, three judo champions, one weight-lifter, a runner and a swimmer.

Fifth Person Dies in French Auto Race Crash

ALENCON, France (AP) — A fifth person died Monday from injuries suffered when a car in an auto race spun out of control Sunday and flew into a crowd of spectators.

Four other people were killed and 23 injured in the first fatal accident since the race was created in 1976. The Belgian driver whose car slammed into the stands said the track was slick from water that officials had sprayed on it to keep down dust.

The latest victim was identified by officials as Bruno Thoreton, 35, who had been in a coma since the accident. The other victims were identified Monday as Francoise quitard, 30= Maryline Loupi, 35= Jacky Touzot, 27= and Guy Richard, 50.

All the dead and the other injured were from the Orne region where the race was taking place, officials said.

Three helicopters ferried the injured, eight of whom were seriously hurt, to local hospitals near the racetrack in essay, about 200 kilometers (125 miles) west of Paris, according to police.

The 15 less serious injuries included broken bones and shock, officials said.

Armenia Ready For Wrestling Contests

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The Republic of Armenia has announced readiness to participate in the international wrestling competitions for the youth to be held in Tehran in August.

This will bring to 27 the number of participant countries in the sporting event, which will see competitions among 15 and 16 years old wrestlers in free style and Greco-Roman categories.

The teams which are to take part in the bouts are from Russia, Ukraine, Japan, India, Belarus, Turkey, South Africa, France, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Sweden, Italy, Slovac Republic, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Greece, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Namibia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lithuania, Iraq, Tajikstan and Taiwan.

China Says All Its Athletes Will Be Drug-Free in Atlanta

BEIJING (AFP) — The upcoming Olympic Games in Atlanta will prove that China's top athletes are drug-free, according to the Chinese anti-doping committee.

"China has stepped up its efforts in combatting drug use before sending its athletes to the Atlanta Olympic Games," said committee official Yang Tianle.

"From 1995 to now, no Chinese athlete has tested positive in international competition," Xinhua quoted him as saying in an overnight dispatch.

Yang said the committee had increased its random testing in the last few months and had concentrated on China's strongest events — track and field, swimming, canoeing, rowing, weightlifting, cycling and judo.

The doping issue has plagued China's athletes since the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima when 11 Chinese competitors — including two world champion swimmers — tested positive.

Despite repeated pledges from the Chinese Olympic Committee that their athletes are drugs-free, allegations of systematic doping continue to be made, most recently by the U.S. television network ABC on July 10.

China reacted angrily to the program and said it was broadcast with the ulterior motive of slandering Chinese athletes and deflecting attention from doping cases in other countries.

At the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, China won 54 medals including 16 golds and its squad hopes to repeat that performance during the Atlanta Games, which start on July 17.

Dutch Doubles Star Earns Shot Against Agassi

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jacco Eltingh, one of the world's top doubles players, beat Stefano Pescosolido 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-4) to advance to a second-round match with top-seeded Andre Agassi in the Legg Mason Classic.

Eltingh, a Dutchman battling tendinitis in both knees, had seen his singles ranking slip from a high of no. 19 a year ago to no. 197 when play started on Monday.

Eltingh's match was delayed by rain for almost four hours and only two other matches were completed before the delay.

Colombia's Mauricio hadad beat Hungary's Sandor Noszaly 6-3, 6-2, and Bryan Shelton defeated Justin Gimelstob 7-6 (7-2), 6-3.

Agassi, a three-time Legg Mason Champion, entered the tournament at the last moment as a wild card. A first-round loser at Wimbledon, he has struggled since winning the Lipton Championships in March, playing just five matches with a 2-3 record.

In night matches, 15th-seeded patrick rafter beat Jim Grabb 6-2, 7-5, 13th-seeded David Prinosil defeated Frederik Fetterlein 6-7 (4-7), 6-3, 6-4 and Neville Godwin edged David Wheaton 7-6 (10-8), 4-6, 6-3.

NBA Free Agents Sign Rich Deals

ATLANTA, Georgia (AFP) — Four days into the richest bidding frenzy in National Basketball Association history, the league's power balance has started shifting to the teams with plenty of money to spend.

In the wake of Michael Jordan's re-signing with Chicago, the Miami Heat have signed a reported seven-year, 98 million-dollar deal with Washington forward Juwan Howard to play alongside Alonzo Mourning.

The New York Knicks have signed Detroit's Allan Houston to a seven-year contract worth 56 million dollars and Chris Childs to a six-year, 24 million-dollar pact to provide power alongside veteran center Patrick Ewing.

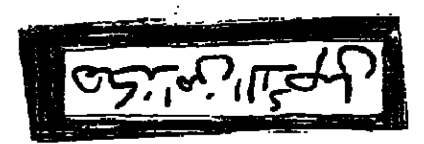
Gary Payton, a "Dream Team" guard who helped Seattle reach the NBA final, signed a seven-year, 77 million-dollar deal to remain with the Supersonics.

John Stockton, another backcourt player for the Olympians, signed a three-year deal worth 15 million dollars to stay with Utah.

The big prizes remaining among the free agents are U.S. Olympians Shaquille O'Neal of Orlando and Reggie Miller of Indiana. The Los Angeles Lakers have shown interest in O'Neal.



ATLANTA, United States (July 15): German Olympic team gymnast Andreas Wecker practices on the vault during a training session at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. The Centennial Olympic Games are scheduled to open July 19 in Atlanta. (AFP PHOTO)



U.S. Renews Warning on Jewish Settlements

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — The United States, faced with fresh Israeli threats to expand Jewish areas in the West Bank, warned a new on Monday that it considers settlements a "complicating factor" in Mideast peace efforts.

"It's long been the United States' position — certainly the position of this administration — that settlement activity is a problem and a complicating factor in the Middle East peace negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israeli government," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said.

Jewish settlers in Israel said on Sunday they planned to triple their numbers under hardline Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, an intention decried by Palestinians as a catastrophe in the making.

Settler leaders in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip said their plans included creation of new settlements though the focus would be on expanding existing communities.

Rafael Eitan, Deputy Prime Minister in the new government of Netanyahu, also made similar comments about tripling settlements.

Burns, at a news briefing, noted that Israel and the Palestinians agreed in their recent peace accords that the issue of settlements would be taken up in final status talks.

Those talks formerly began in early May before Netanyahu, who has taken a harder line toward peace with Arabs, ousted then Prime Minister Shimon Peres in the May 29 Israeli elections.

Burns said the United States hopes the Israel-Palestinian final status talks resume and "our position, therefore, that I have annunciated today on settlements, a longstanding position, remains true."

Netanyahu's rightwing Likud Party backs Jewish settlement, but since taking office last month he has not yet adopted a plan for the West Bank and Gaza, parts of which Israel's last government handed over to Palestinian rule under peace negotiations.

Netanyahu, returning home late on Sunday from a week-long U.S. visit, acknowledged he and the Clinton administration had "differences of opinion" over the settlements, long seen by Washington as obstacles to peace.

But he said that during the visit, his first as prime minister, "this debate did not come up, and was not sharpened, for a simple reason: we have yet to take substantive action on this."

Taleban Jet Pilot Defects to Kabul Government

KABUL (AFP) — A jet pilot with the Taleban militia defected to the Afghan government Tuesday, surrendering himself and his mig 21 fighter-bomber to the military in Kabul, senior army sources said.

Pilot Abdul Jalil flew the jet low over the besieged capital Tuesday morning before landing the Russian-built aircraft at the government's main air base near here, they said.

The defection is likely to deal a very severe blow to the Taleban war machine as the warriors had only four or five airworthy jets in their fleet, analysts said.

"The pilot flew from the Taleban base at Kandahar and surrendered himself and his plane to our forces at 10.50 a.m. (0525 GMT)," a senior government commander, General Moslem, said.

25 Civilians Killed by Russian Troops

MOSCOW (AFP) — Chechen leaders said on Tuesday that 25 civilians had been killed by shots fired from Russian armored vehicles taking part in a massive military offensive on the outskirts of Grozny.

The leaders charged that Moscow was trying to wipe out the Chechen people, many of whom gathered outside the Parliament building of the devastated Chechen capital to protest the offensive.

Russian Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov earlier Tuesday defended Moscow's massive operation against the fighters saying they must be wiped out.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

PAKISTAN...

Gilani will also meet with Secretary-General of the 10-member Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Shamshad Ahmad, in Tehran.

During his stay, the Pakistani Parliament speaker will travel to the cities of Mashhad and Isfahan before returning to Islamabad on Sunday.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

TURKISH...

More than 22,000 people, including rebels, troops and civilians, have been killed in violence in southeastern Turkey since 1984 when the PKK launched its armed campaign for a homeland.

The regional governorship is the top local office responsible to coordinate the fight against the PKK in 10 southeastern provinces.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

HOLBROOKE...

Holbrooke, who has been brought out of retirement to halt the slide in the peace process, said the Americans were particularly "unhappy" about the level of implementation by the Bosnian Serbs.

In violation of the Dayton agreement, the Bosnian Serb leaders Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic — both indicted by the the Hague-based War Crimes Tribunal — remain in power in their half of Bosnia.

Their removal from the scene is now viewed as essential for the peace process to move forward and successful national elections to be held mid-September.

Holbrooke made no comment on his meeting with NATO secretary General Javier Solana and the Alliance's Commander in Europe General George Joulwan.

However, any role that might be played by NATO's peacekeepers in Bosnia (IFOR) to oust Karadzic and Mladic is bound to have topped the agenda.

In addition to meeting senior Muslim officials in Sarajevo, Holbrooke will also travel to Belgrade for talks with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. He is due to meet Croatian President Franco Tudjman on Wednesday.

Increasingly hardline positions are being taken by all three sides in Bosnia as the country moves towards a general election, the first since the war ended last December.

Sarajevo's Muslim administration has repeatedly hinted that it will not contest the elections as long as Karadzic remains in a position of power.

Despite saying he will not contest the elections, Karadzic remains at the head of the ruling Serb party in the so-called Republika Srpska.

To head off further trouble over the elections, Holbrooke is expected to lean heavily on Milosevic, the Balkan strongman who backed the Serbs in Bosnia and signed the Dayton accord on their behalf, to oust Karadzic and Mladic.

Their delivery to the Hague to face charges of genocide and crimes against humanity however is a more thorny issue. Although international arrest warrants exist for the two men, NATO's Implementation Force (IFOR) is reluctant to become involved in an operation to snatch them.

The Bosnian Serbs have threatened to retaliate against UN officials in Republika Srpska and other international agencies if any attempt is made to arrest Karadzic or Mladic.

As additional pressure on the Serb side is the ruling Monday by the U.S diplomat organizing the election that campaigning cannot start until Karadzic steps down as head of his party.

In an explicit threat to Karadzic's SDS party, Robert Frowick the chief of OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) mission in Bosnia said any party with an indicted war criminal in a position of influence would be barred from the poll.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

ARAB...

month insisted that Israel hold to the land-for-peace formula that has underpinned negotiations since 1991. Arab leaders warned that steps taken by Arab nations to normalize ties with the Jewish state could be reversed if there is no progress in negotiations.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

WASHINGTON...

of Congress and the Cuban-American community of his intentions.

In Washington, there were signs Clinton was searching for a way to avoid alienating U.S. friends, but Vice President Al Gore struck a tough tone in remarks to CNN from Moscow, where he was due to meet Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Tuesday.

"We want to keep the pressure on," Gore said. "We are intent on following a policy that will hasten the end of the Castro regime. Its time has long since passed."

White House Spokesman Mike Mccurry said the allies have "got it exactly the wrong way around" by complaining about the U.S. law instead of offering ways to isolate Cuba.

"We would say to our allies — join us now in the effort to confine Cuban communism to the trash bin of history where it belongs," he said.

Congress passed the Helms-Burton Act, named after its sponsors, to pressure Cuba to adopt democratic reforms. Clinton signed it into law in March after Cuba shot down two civilian aircraft, killing the four Cuban-Americans on board.

Title 3 of the law allows lawsuits to be filed in U.S. courts against foreign firms that buy or sell the properties of U.S. citizens seized by the government of Cuban President Fidel Castro after the 1959 Cuban revolution.

U.S. allies such as Canada and several European countries fear their firms would be subject to such lawsuits.

Clinton has until midnight on Tuesday to suspend enforcement of the law's title 3 section for six months. It goes into effect automatically if he does nothing.

A White House official, suggesting Clinton might find a middle-ground approach, said "there is some flexibility as to how a waiver to title 3 can be applied if the president chooses to exercise that flexibility."

"We're searching for a compromise that will be the greatest benefit to all interested parties," said the official, who asked not to be identified. "For the president this is a difficult choice and it is a choice where he will not please all of the constituencies involved."

But Marc Thiessen, a spokesman for Sen. Jesse Helms, the conservative north Carolina republican who co-wrote the law, said the lawsuits were "the most effective tool to protect American citizens' property rights and cut off Castro's hard currency. Nothing less than that is satisfactory," he said.

The European foreign ministers said they would compile a "watch list" of U.S. companies that took legal action against European firms with Cuban links.

They said an EU complaint with the World Trade Organization would be stepped up visa restrictions would be considered against U.S. business executives and legislation would be introduced in European courts to counter the act.

Some American officials have expressed concern about the impact trade retaliation would have on 11 million U.S. jobs tied to exports.

If he does waive the provision, Clinton would also risk the wrath of Cuban-American communities in Florida and New Jersey, two key swing states this presidential election year.

Cuban exiles in Miami, home to the nation's largest Cuban-American community, said they hoped the president would keep all of the tough provisions.

"We are firm believers that severe sanctions against Fidel Castro will bring about democracy in Cuba. So we urge the president to keep title 3," said Ninoska Perez, a spokeswoman with the conservative anti-Communist Cuban-American National Foundation.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

IRAN...

- To be independent from non-Muslim countries,
- Utilizing the low-cost telecommunications facilities of Muslim states,
- Further cooperation and consultation among OIC members.

He stressed the importance of consultation and cooperation among the Muslim countries. It is only through these two factors that Muslim nations can develop and progress.

Nasim, meeting President Rafsanjani on Thursday, handed over the Bangladeshi new-elected prime minister's oral message to the president. In the message the prime minister sent her and Bangladeshi nation's greetings and well wishes to the president and Muslim nation of Iran.

In response Iranian president sent his warmest wishes to the Bangladeshi nation.

The two Muslim nations are engaged in several financial and cultural activities. He expressed his hope that these activities will be expanded even further.

During the two-day ministerial meeting, representatives from 52 OIC member states reviewed the major telecommunications issues of the Islamic countries and explore practical ways to promote international cooperation in this regard.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

CLINTON...

tion Canada and others," the spokesman said.

The legislation, named after its congressional sponsors Republicans Jesse Helms and representative Dan Burton, was signed by Clinton on March 12 after a Cuban fighter plane shot down two U.S. planes over international waters, killing four people on board.

Clinton had opposed the legislation arguing that it would harm U.S. trade relations with its major partners.

But the shootdown prompted a turnaround with the administration arguing since that it was compelled to take tough measures because of Cuban President Fidel Castro's refusal to democratize.

Under the legislation, Clinton can suspend Title III for six months at a time if he certifies to Congress that doing so is in the national security interest of the United States or furthers democracy in Cuba.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

HABIBI...

toric inauguration ceremonies of the Mashhad-Sarakhs-Tajan railroad.

Aseinov described the achievements of the first Irano-Kyrgyzstan Joint Commission meeting as "magnificent" and expressed hope that Tehran will be the venue of the next joint commission meeting.

The first Irano-Kyrgyzstan Joint Commission meeting, it may be noted, was held in Bishkek on May 26-28, 1996.

Referring to the opening of diplomatic ties between Iran and Kyrgyzstan, Aseinov said that Iran took the first step by opening its embassy in Bishkek in 1993.

The inauguration of the Kyrgyzstan Embassy in Tehran on June 14, 1996 completed the foundation for smooth political and economic cooperation between the two countries, he further said.

He also voiced satisfaction over the mutual understanding which exists between the leaders of the two countries.

On the balance of trade between Iran and Kyrgyzstan in the last nine months of 1995, Aseinov pointed out that the balance is in Kyrgyzstan's favor with exports to Iran amounting to $1,840,000 and imports from Iran at $1, 664,000.

Aseinov also pointed to Kyrgyzstan's high potential for producing and importing electricity because of its mountainous terrain and as a member of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

He said that contracts signed recently between the Iran Khodro Company and TOKMOK Auto Repair Plant for the production of minibuses, an agreement between Iran's Aseman Air Lines and Kyrgyzstan Air Lines for the establishment of direct air links between the two countries and commercial activities undertaken by Iranian private businessmen in Kyrgyzstan indicate increased cooperation between the two countries.

Aseinov lauded the cordial relations between officials of the two countries and was proud of the fact that when he submitted his credentials to President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani the latter referred to President Akaev as one of his best friends.

The Central Asian Republic of Kyrgyzstan has a total area of 198,500 sqm and shares common borders with China, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. According to 1992 figures, it has a population of 4,500,000.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

YELTSIN...

A source in Yeltsin's entourage told Interfax that Yeltsin planned to discuss "the major issues in Russian-U.S. relations," including attracting U.S. investments to Russia and working out mutually acceptable approaches to European security.

The source said Yeltsin and Gore may also discuss the Start II disarmament accord and the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty and the drafting of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

Plans for further U.S.-Russian summit meetings may also be on the agenda, the source added.

Yeltsin's surprise postponement of the meeting with Gore Monday prompted further speculation about his health.

Yeltsin rested at Barvikha last year after suffering a mild heart attack in October — his second in four months — and he also spent several days at the country residence last month, between the two rounds of the Russian presidential elections.

However, Kremlin Spokesman Sergei Medvedev insisted that Yeltsin was in good health.

(Contd from Pg. 10)

ASTRONAUT...

stressed that the extension of her mission would allow her to "start things which were planned for the next flight," bringing another astronaut to the Mir.

The Russian cosmonauts aboard the orbiter, Commander Yuri Onufrienko and engineer Yuri Usatchev, praised Lucid's contributions to the mission and said they would be sad to see her leave.

Lucid, married and the mother of three children, joined the U.S. Astronaut Corps in 1979.

The three air crew sent their best wishes to athletes who will be participating in the Olympics games in Atlanta, Georgia, beginning Friday.

WEATHER

The I.R. of Iran Meteorological Organization announced today's weather as follows:

Forecast for Tehran: Max. temp. 32°C
Min. temp. 23°C

Clear to partly cloudy with wind and dust

Warmest Points:
Ahwaz, Omidieh 46°C

Coldest Point:
Khalkhal 3°C

Some cities of the world

Cities	Max °C	Cities	Max °C
Jedda	–	Vienna	21
Riyadh	43	Moscow	–
Istanbul	31	Madrid	30
Rome	27	Abu Dhabi	43
Athens	–	Karachi	–
London	19	New Delhi	–
Paris	22	Kuwait	40
Frankfurt	–		

UK Police Arrest Seven, Say Averted Bomb Disaster

LONDON (Reuter) — British anti-terrorist police on Monday arrested seven men, seizing enough explosives to make 36 bombs, and said they had narrowly averted a series of IRA guerrilla attacks in London and the south-east of England.

"I believe we were only a few hours away from grave loss of life in London and the south-east," police Commander John Grieve told a news conference hours after his men had swooped on four south London addresses.

"A substantial amount of bomb-making equipment was recovered at these addresses...including the components to make 36 devices, including time and power units," Grieve said.

"The number of devices suggests there was to be a whole series of attacks over a prolonged period," he added, describing the operation as a "significant success in our struggle against Irish Republican Army terrorism."

The arrested men were being held under the prevention of terrorism act, which is normally used to counter guerrilla activities linked to the Northern Ireland conflict.

Floods Kill 15, Leave Thousands Homeless in Nepal

KATHMANDU (AFP) – Flash floods and landslides triggered by incessant rains have killed more than 15 people, left thousands homeless and caused millions of dollars in damage, the official news agency RSS reported Tuesday.

Opposition party sources put the deaths at more than 24.

A team of ministers and lawmakers inspected the flood affected areas in the lowland southeastern Sunsari district which has been hit by heavy rain for three days.

They discovered that 1,028 houses had been destroyed and more than 10,000 houses swamped with water, the agency said.

The downpours badly damaged two bridges over the Swollen Koshi River and ruined paddy fields.

Thousands of families driven from their homes by floods and landslides have taken shelter in schools and have been given emergency food supplies.

Rains in the 1996 monsoon killed around 2,000 people and caused billions of dollars in damage to infrastructure in the worst disaster to hit Nepal this century.



GEKHI, Chechnya, Russian Federation (July 14): Locals attend the funeral ceremony of a neighbor killed in recent clashes between Russian troops and Chechen separatists, in Gekhi. Local head of administration said 15 civilians had been killed and 71 wounded in the Russian bombardment of Gekhi. The shelling also destroyed or badly damaged 600 homes, about one-quarter of those in the village. (AFP PHOTO)

Saudis Do Not Have Bomb Escape Car

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — Amid signs of concern over Saudi Arabian cooperation, U.S. Defense officials on Monday denied that Saudi investigators had found the getaway car used in a bombing that killed 19 U.S. servicemen near Dhahran.

"The car that was found is apparently not the vehicle involved in the June 25 incident," said one of the officials in response to questions about a *Washington Post* report that the Saudis believed they had found the car north of Dhahran.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, spoke with Reuters as concern appeared to grow in Washington over whether the Saudis were fully cooperating on the truck bomb that hit a housing complex used by U.S. Air Force personnel.

This concern arose on Sunday when the official Saudi Press Agency reported that Defense Minister Prince Sultan said Riyadh did not favor a Pentagon proposal to move some of the 5,000 U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia away from big bases to safer areas of the kingdom.

But one defense official said the Saudis had contacted the Pentagon on Monday to say Prince Sultan had been misquoted and had not shut the door on a potentially expensive shift of some U.S. troops.

The officials said the matter was under discussion and a formal proposal had not been presented to the Saudis. They added that the Saudis had assured the Pentagon of ongoing cooperation in protecting U.S. forces.

The FBI said on Monday that agency director Louis Freeh had returned from a second trip to Saudi Arabia on Sunday to discuss access to evidence gathered in the investigation.

FBI officials declined to discuss details of the visit or the investigation, but one official who asked not to be identified said the visit concerned 'problems regarding cooperation.'

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns also declined to discuss the Freeh visit but suggested Prince Sultan had not ruled out moving U.S. troops to safer areas.

"Our relations with Saudi Arabia remain very good, very positive," Burns told reporters. "We have a very firm commitment from King Fahd that he will do what he must."

Majlis Speaker Inaugurates First International Youth Film Festival Today

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN– Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri inaugurates the First International Youth film Festival at Bahman Cultural Complex of Tehran today at seven P.M.

Mohammad Hossein Soufi, the Festival Secretary, and Managing Director of Youth Cinema Association (YCA) briefed the press on the outlines of the upcoming festival (July 17- 23) at a conference held at YCA yesterday.

This will be the Thirteenth Youth Film Festival held by the YCA and the hundredth festival held by the said association in the country.

"Out of the 586 video, 8 mm and 16 mm films received at the festival's headquarters within the announced time span, the selection jury has chosen 100 films to be screened at the competition section" said Soufi.

The foreign films at the festival will not participate at the competition this year, but arrangements will be made to meet that end in the future. Sixty-eight foreign films from ten countries have reached the festival and 34 of them from such countries as Sweden, Check Republic, Hungry, Belgium and Japan will be screened at the side-activities section of the festival.

There will also be a photo exhibition section with 2,680 snapshots from 639 photographers at the competition section, panel discussions with the young, as well as professional directors and lectures by such prominent scholars as Allameh Mohammad Taqi Jafari, Dr, Mohammad Madadpour etc.

Strong Quake Rocks Mexico

MEXICO CITY (Reuter) -- A strong earthquake struck southern Mexico on Monday, rocking the capital and frightening tourists in the Pacific resort of Acapulco but causing no casualties, authorities said.

The quake measured 6.5 on the open-ended Richter scale and struck at 4:24 p.m. local time (2124 GMT), the U.S. National Earthquake Information Service and Mexico's National Autonomous University said.

The epicenter was located about 20 miles (30 km) east of the village of Petatlan in the southern state of Guerrero, between Acapulco and another beach resort, Zihuatanejo, Earthquake Monitoring Services said.

In Mexico City, residents rushed out of tall buildings in panic, witnesses said.

"It was strong. It felt terrible, but there is no visible damage from where we are," said Sinai Sencion, a spokeswoman at the Mexico City mayor's office downtown.

Central areas of Mexico City were destroyed in two huge quakes in September 1985, the biggest of which measured a massive 8.1 on the Richter scale.

A specially installed earthquake alarm in Mexico City which is supposed to give 50 seconds warning to residents of incoming quakes from the Guerrero coast failed to go off.

The government news agency Notimex said some telephone lines and electricity cables were severed in the capital and there were "fits of nerves among people who evacuated some public and private office buildings".

A spokesman for the Red Cross in Mexico City said it had not been alerted to any deaths or injuries as a result of the quake, which lasted about a minute and was felt throughout the capital.

Warlord Taylor Apologizes for Monrovia Clashes

MONROVIA (AFP) -- Charles Taylor, the warlord who ignited more than six years of conflict in Liberia, on Tuesday apologized for clashes which devastated Monrovia for seven weeks in April and May.

"I apologize to you for the recent fighting in Monrovia. I was forced to fight, and I am very very sorry to see you people suffering," Taylor told a peace and reconciliation conference organized by traditional chiefs broadcast on a radio station he owns.

But Taylor, one of three faction leaders sitting on the West African country's six-man ruling council of state, insisted he fought "for principle to bring to justice someone who violated the law."

The clashes followed an attempt by forces loyal to Taylor and fellow state councilman and warlord, Alhaji Kromah -- posing as "government forces" -- to arrest a third faction leader, "General" Roosevelt Johnson, on murder charges.

The factional fighting and accompanying widespread looting led to the mass evacuation of foreign nationals. Thousands of Monrovians were forced to flee their homes for makeshift displaced camps across the city, which has yet to recover fully from the clashes.

Taylor, who has presidential aspirations, also told the chiefs he would like to see early elections take place "even without total disarmament" of Liberia's estimated 60,000 fighters.

Under a peace accord signed in Abuja last August by all faction leaders, total disarmament was scheduled to precede elections.

Thousands of Tutsi Youths Demonstrate Against Foreign Troops

BUJUMBURA, Burundi (AP) — Several thousand Tutsi youths demonstrated in the streets of the Burundian capital Monday, chanting slogans against foreign military intervention to stem spiraling ethnic violence in the Central African nation.

"Burundi youth ready to combat foreign troops and the regime that allows them to come," read one banner carried by the young men, most of whom are associated with the hard-line Tusti organization, Society of Youth for Democracy.

Police made a half-hearted effort to control the demonstrators.

In the past few weeks, hundreds of teenage boys have been running and chanting through Bujumbura's streets in military formation. In the past, their reference to an unseen enemy meant Hutu rebels. But now the Tutsi boys sing about a new enemy - foreign troops.

"I am prepared to fight foreign troops if there is an intervention," said 16-year-old student Antoine, expressing the general sentiments of his running mates.

Burundi is divided along ethnic lines, in which the Tutsi minority of 14 percent controls the Hutu majority of 85 percent, in large part through control of the army and militias made up of street toughs.

One group has terrorized Hutus into fleeing the capital, leaving it - and most other major towns in the country - as Tutsi bastions.

Last month, the fragile coalition government led by a Hutu president and a Tutsi prime minister appealed for the first time for outside help to halt the violence that has resulted in the deaths of at least 150,000 people since October 1993.

Civilians suffer most as they are caught in cross-fire between the army and the Hutu rebels, who operate from neighboring Zaire.

Uganda Rebels Deny Slaying Sudanese Refugees

NAIROBI (AFP) – Ugandan rebels on Tuesday denied killing more than 100 Sudanese refugees in an attack in northern Uganda last week and instead accused the Ugandan Army of carrying out the slayings.

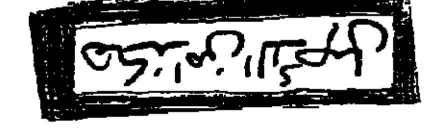
In a statement, the rebel Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) said it was not its policy to attack civilians and urged the international community to investigate the attacks on Acholi-Pii refugee camp, near northern Kitgum, on Friday and Saturday.

Thirty-Two Die in Dutch Air Disaster

EINDHOVEN, Netherlands (Reuter) – Thirty-two people including many members of a Dutch military brass band were killed when a Belgian military aircraft crashed at Eindhoven Airport in the southern Netherlands.

The 26-year-old C-130 Hercules plane banked steeply as it tried to land, ploughed into a field in the airport's military section and burst into flames just after six p.m. (1600 GMT) on Monday.

"Thirty-two people have lost their lives in a most terrible way," Dutch Junior Defense Minister Jan Gmelich Meijling told a news conference at the air base.



هكذا من الأصل

Cowboy Rides a Stolen Horse on Expressway

SINGAPORE (AFP) — A man clad in cowboy attire stole a $15,000 horse from the Singapore polo club and took it for a ride on an expressway, the police said Tuesday.

The 32-year-old jobless man tried to gallop away when police cars chased him on the Pan-Island expressway, but was overtaken and forced to a halt near a flyover in the early hours Monday, a police spokesman said.

The thief claimed he owned the horse and heading for neighboring Malasia.

Woman Stabbed to Death in Egypt

CAIRO (Reuter) — An American woman was stabbed to death at a luxury Cairo hotel on Monday night, Egypt's Interior Ministry said in a statement.

It said the 56-year-old woman was attacked by an Egyptian with a history of mental illness at the entrance to the Inter-continental Hotel in central Cairo.

Hotel staff gave the dead woman's name as Judith Goldenberg.

Bomb Blast Targets Ukrainian Premier

MOSCOW (AFP) — A remote-controlled bomb exploded in Kiev Tuesday as a car belonging to Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavel Lazarenko was passing by, Interfax news agency reported.

The car was damaged but there were no casualties.

The agency gave no further details on the blast. Nor did it say whether Lazarenko was in the car at the time.

The communist-dominated Ukrainian Parliament last Wednesday overwhelmingly reelected Lazarenko as prime minister.

Lazarenko, 43, had submitted his government's resignation on July 5, in line with the republic's first post-Soviet constitution adopted last month.

The premier is seen as a protege of President Leonid Kuchma.

He was appointed in late May when Kuchma fired Prime Minister Yevgeny Marchuk, accusing him of bungling the nation's economic reform program.

Like Kuchma, Lazarenko is from the industrial town of Dnepropetrovsk in southeast Ukraine, where he rose within the local administration to become governor.

When he was first named prime minister, he appointed other colleagues from his home city, marginalizing some reformists in the process.

Rains, Floods Leave 135 Dead in India, Bangladesh

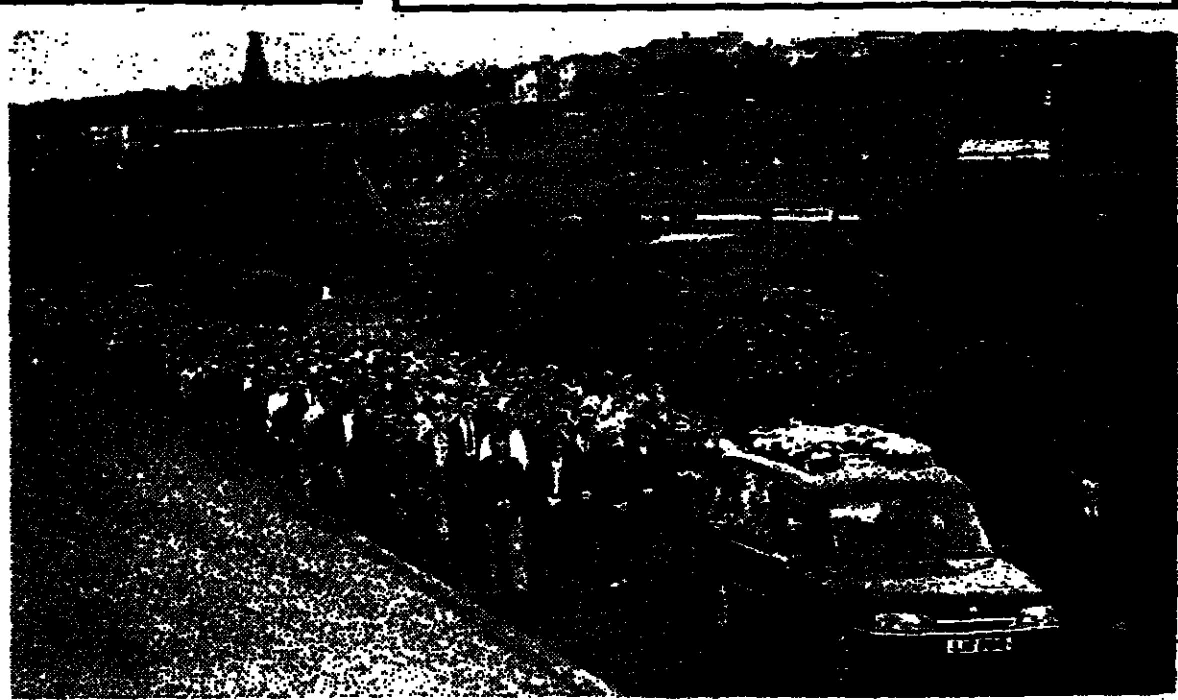
CALCUTTA, India (Reuter) — About 135 people were feared killed and some 1.9 million made homeless in eastern India and Bangladesh by floods and landslides after four days of torrential monsoon rains, local officials said on Monday.

Officials in the north-eastern state of Assam, home to 22.4 million people, said heavy annual flooding had claimed at least 20 lives and left a staggering 1.7 million people without homes.

"It's still raining," a resident in the state's capital, Guwahati, said by telephone. "It's very bad now and it's going to continue."

The Assam government set up 150 relief camps to provide shelter and food to the homeless and troops worked around the clock to rescue marooned villagers and reopen roads.

Flooding is an annual event for people living in the northeast of India, which is said to have the highest rainfall in the world due to a rainy season which lasts until September.



LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland (July 15): Hundreds of mourners follow the coffin of Roman Catholic Dermot McShane, who was killed during the recent violence, as it approaches Derry Cemetery. McShance died of his injuries after being hit by a police vehicle during rioting last week. (AFP PHOTO)

N. Ireland Riot Victim Buried as Calm Returns

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland (Reuter) — The first person killed in the fresh wave of violence sweeping Northern Ireland was buried at a somber Londonderry ceremony on Monday beside other Catholic victims of the 27-year conflict.

Leading Republicans, including Nobel Peace Prize nominee John Hume and Sinn Fein negotiator Martin McGuiness, filed behind the coffin of convicted bomber Mermot McShane, who was hit by an army armored vehicle in Catholic riots on Friday.

Amid a tense calm in the province on Monday night, politicians on both sides of the Irish Sea sought some way to restore a peace process deeply wounded by a week of bitter confrontation.

Northern Ireland Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew told the British Parliament that the violence was "the worst setback for many years, a return towards what so many people in Northern Ireland, and far beyond, had prayed was over for good".

In London, police said they had thwarted by several hours a major Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrilla attack after finding a bomb factory in the capital. Seven men were arrested under anti-terrorism laws, they said.

The find was made on the eve of the resumption in Belfast of Anglo-Irish peace talks grouping every major political party except Sinn Fein, which is excluded until its IRA guerrilla allies restore a broken 17-month truce.

McShane, 35, was jailed for 4-1/2 years in the 1980s for bombing offences and membership of the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army (INLA), an IRA splinter faction.

But he was not a member when he died and he was not given the traditional hero's farewell of a volley of shots fired over his coffin by masked men in black leather jackets.

War Crimes Team Uncovers Dozens More Bodies in Mass Grave

CERSKA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AFP) — UN war crimes investigators have discovered dozens more bodies in a mass grave of men believed killed by Bosnian Serbs after the fall of the town of Srebrenica last year, investigators said Tuesday.

The war crimes team has so far exhumed the remains of 75 men from the site at Cerska in eastern Bosnia and believes another 30 to 40 are still there to be uncovered, forensic scientist William Haglund said here.

The war crimes investigators, working with the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), had expected to wrap up work at the site Monday.

The grave is the first to be excavated by the ICTY team which is believed to be linked to the fall of Srebrenica last year. Some 3,000 to 8,000 men are believed to have been killed, and buried in mass graves dotted around eastern Bosnia, after the formerly Muslim-majority town fell to the Serbs on July 11 last year.



CERSKA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (July 15): An investigator for the UN International Crimes Tribunal for ex-Yugoslavia examines human remains in a mass grave outside the village of Cerska, near Srebrenica, some 65 km southeast of Tuzla in the Serb entity, while others (REAR) remove a body from the site. (AFP PHOTO)

Samper Says Losing U.S. Visa Made Him Stonger

BOGOTA (AFP) — President Ernesto Samper said he would not step down and stressed that the U.S. decision to revoke his visa has actually made him stronger both at home and abroad.

"If they were trying to isolate me ... they made a mistake. I have never had so much support from Colombians and the international community," Samper said in a television and radio interview late Monday.

Washington's decision last week to revoke Samper's U.S. visa because of his alleged links to drug traffickers, was condemned by a majority of Colombians in opinion polls and by the Non-Aligned Movement and the Rio Group of Latin American Nations.

Despite Samper's growing confidence since he was cleared by Congress last month of knowingly accepting campaign contributions from the Cali Drug Cartel, Colombian business leaders are concerned that the United States will impose economic sanctions against the country.

The National Business Council (CGN) on Monday said that the government's poor credibility augered ill for the economy and reiterated its call for Samper's resignation as a way for Colombia to maneuver its way out of the crisis.

Seventy percent of the 500 executives polled said the political crisis was to blame for the country's depressed economy, the paper said.

Six Nepalese Tourists Killed in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Six Nepalese tourists were killed Tuesday by unidentified gunmen in the strife-torn state of Jammu-Kashmir, a news report said.

The bullet-riddled bodies of the Nepalese were found on the outskirts of Srinagar, capital of Jammu-Kashmir state, United News of India news agency reported.

No one claimed responsibility for the killings.

It said police took away the bodies. The tourists apparently were kidnapped from the famed Dal Lake, UNI said. Details were not immediately known.

A separatist movement in Kashmir has left more than 14,500 people dead since it began in 1989. Guerrillas have been battling Indian security forces to make Kashmir independent.

Ciller to Visit Ireland to Discuss EU Ties

ANKARA (AFP) — Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller will fly to Ireland today for a two-day visit mainly to discuss ties between Turkey and the European Union, diplomats said Tuesday.

She will meet with Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring and other senior officials. Ireland currently holds the EU's six-monthly rotating presidency.

During the first official visit by a Turkish foreign minister to Ireland, Ciller and Spring will discuss developments since Turkey and the EU signed a customs union accord last year.

Diplomatic sources said Ciller would assure Spring that there will be no changes in Turkey's pro-European foreign policy under the coalition government between her and pro-Islamic Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan formed late June.

Erbakan, the first pro-Islamic prime minister in the 73-year history of modern and secular Turkey, had criticized the customs union deal before he came to power. But in a moderate government program announced early this month, he pledged commitment to Turkey's objectives regarding ties with the EU.

Iraq's Agg



Iraq's Aggression Against Iran in Retrospect

(Contd from Pg. 4)

allegedly sponsoring terrorism in 1984 and establishing political relations with that country in the same year as well as providing the Iraqi regime with military support all point out the U.S. partial attitude, if Iraq had not invaded Kuwait and the oil war had not been waged, the actual ties between Washington and Baghdad would not have been uncovered and, in the United States, Britain, France, Germany and other countries supporting Iraq in its war on Iraq, the secrets concerning the lavish aid of those countries to Iraq in the course of the eight years of the Iraqi imposed war on Iran would not have been revealed.

The value of sophisticated electronic equipment and modern computers sold by the U.S. to Iraq during its war against Iran amounted to some 1.5 billion dollars. The equipment was mostly used by Iraq in producing chemical and nuclear arms and ballistic missiles.





During the past decade, in terms of the value of military aid to Iraq, the United States has ranked fourth after Russia, France and Britain.

There were also some surreptitions ties between the Iraqi government and the Zionist regime. The U.S., Iraq and Israel had formed an evil triangle in order to overthrow the Islamic government.

The Zionist regime used to convey the military information that was obtained through satellites to the Iraqi government. Indeed, as the West's military base inside the Islamic world, Israel did its utmost to exert pressure on the Iranian government by supplying Iraq with military aid and chemical weapons.

In view of the above facts, the remarks made by Robert Gates indicating the joint cooperation of the U.S., Iraq and Israel against the Islamic Republic of Iran is by no means surprising. But what seems interesting is admitting such underhand cooperation by the Western officials who have been repeatedly denying the existence of such ties during the past decade.

However, such an alliance failed to achieve its desired objectives and the Islamic forces gained the upper hand in all fronts. In fact, in the last days of the war, the Iranian combatants conducted most of their operations inside Iraq and were almost in the vicinity of the Iraqi port city of Basra.



Thus, the UN Security Council was urged to take more serious measures to end the war between the two countries so as to check the advances of the Islamic forces.

In a report to the Security Council on December 31, 1987, the UN secretary-general called on the members of the council to make every effort to end the war.

Finally, the secretary-general's request was granted by the council's members and, from February, 1987, the Security Council's permanent members embarked on an organized effort to terminate the war between Iran and Iraq. After a few months, they issued the Resolution 598.

The resolution, having a preamble and ten paragraphs, was passed by a unanimous vote at the 2570th session of the council. The paragraphs of the resolution, which were based on Articles 39 and 40 of the UN Charter, state as follows:

1. As the first step toward resolving the conflict through negotiations, Iran and Iraq must establish a cease-fire, stop all air, sea and land operations and withdraw their forces immediately to the internatioanlly recognized borders.

2. The secretary-general is requested to dispatch a group of UN observers to the border between Iran and Iraq so that they will supervise the cease-fire and withdrawal of the troops to the border.

3. The Security Council insists that, after suspending hostilities, the POWs be freed right away according to the Third Geneva Convention, approved on August 12, 1949.



4. Iran and Iraq are invited to cooperate with the secretary-general in implementing the resolution and promoting the mediation efforts aimed at effecting a comprehensive, just and honorable settlement, acceptable to both parties and in line with the UN Charter.

5. All other countries are invited to exercise maximum self-restraint and abstain from whatever measure likely to intensify the hostilities.

6. While consulting with Iran and Iraq, the secretary-general is requested to consider delegating an impartial team to investigate which party is responsible for the war and report to the council in the shortest possible time.

7. The gravity of inflicted damage and destruction in the course of hostilities and the need for reconstruction, through proper international aid, are admitted. Thus, the secretary-general is asked to entrust a team of experts with the task of studying the avenues of reconstruction and report to the Security Council.

8. The secretary-general is also requested to explore ways to enhance regional security and stability by consulting with Iran, Iraq and other countries in the region.

9. The secretary-general is asked to keep the Security Council ever informed of measures taken to implement the resolution.

10. The Security Council is determined to hold further sessions, if necessary, to consider taking more measures to ensure the implementation of the resolution.





TV Programs

Wednesday Evening, July 17

National Network, Channel 1:

12:30 Focus on Family
14:00 News
14:30 Focus on Family
15:00 Sports Program
15:45 Kids Corner
16:30 News
17:00 Children's Program
18:00 The Silent Cast
18:30 Report on IRGC
19:00 News
19:15 Mourning
20:15 The Wave
20:25 Review of Day's Major News Stories
20:42 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:50 Focus on Martyrs
21:00 News
21:30 Advertisements & Music
21:50 Summer of 1375
22:10 Advertisements
22:20 Iranian TV Series
23:05 Focus on Sports

National Network, Channel 2:

13:13 Religious Program
13:30 (To be announced)
13:50 Weekly Talks
14:00 Iranian TV Series
15:00 The School of Soccer
15:30 Weather Forecast
16:00 Preuniversity Courses
17:00 Focus on Living (teaching requirements for life)
18:00 Computer
18:30 Scientific Program
19:00 We & Our Children
19:30 Children's Program
20:00 Summer Program
20:30 Cultural, Scientific News
20:42 Call to Prayer (Azan)
21:00 The Week's politcal Roundtable
21:45 Iranian TV Series
22:30 News
22:45 Notes of the Night
23:00 Under the Law Shelter
23:30 Documentary
24:00 Foreigners' Shadow

National Network, Channel 3:

16:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
16:15 Freshness
17:00 Religious Program
17:30 Sports Program
18:15 Wrestling
19:00 For Tomorrow
19:30 The 2nd Season
19:45 Sports News
20:00 The Events in Cinema
20:10 Sports Roundup
20:42 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:51 Sports Roundup
22:45 News (in English)

National Network, Tehran Channel:

17:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
17:15 Face to Face With Youths
17:45 Competition
18:15 Word Games
18:30 Tehran News
18:45 In the City
19:00 Traveling
19:15 With Your Permission
19:30 Medical Points
19:45 A City, Thousands of Automobiles
20:00 Commercial Program
20:30 Special Program on Martyrdom of Imam Raza (AS)
20:42 Call to Prayer (Azan)
21:00 Introducing Tehran's Districts
21:15 The Alerts
21:30 Cultural Program
22:00 News
22:15 In the City
22:30 Sport Station
23:00 The Day's Special Program

Thursday Morning, July 18

National Network, Channel 1:

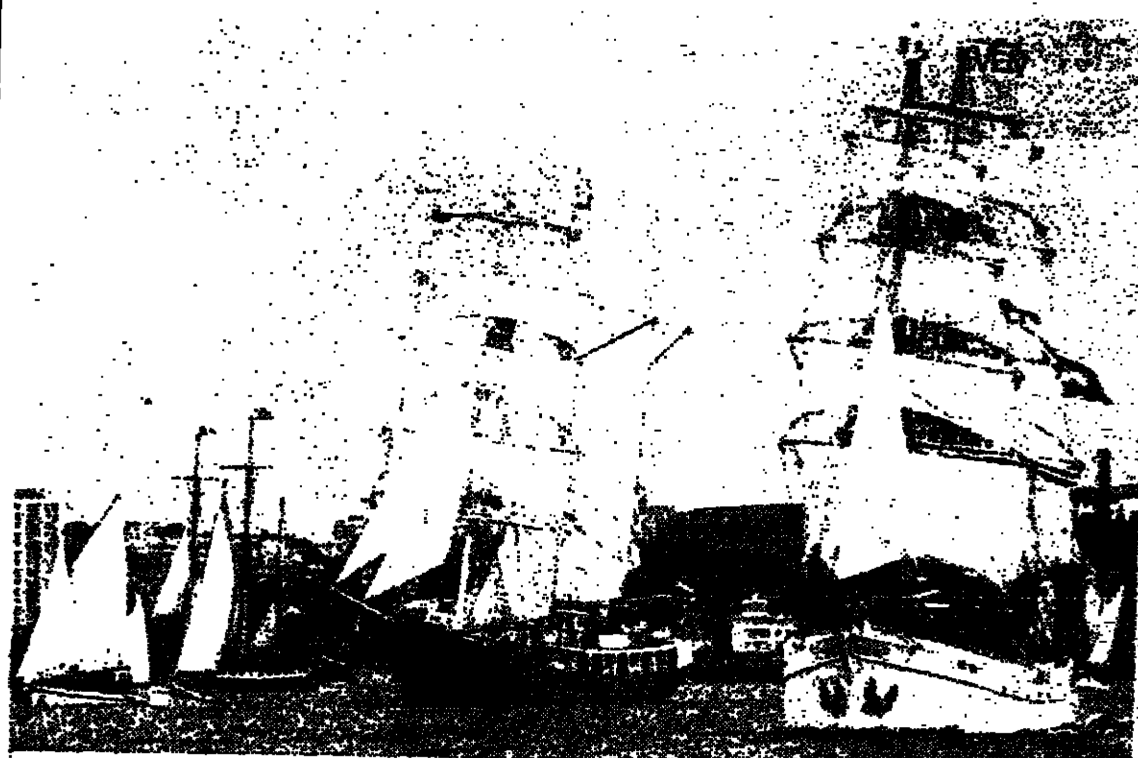
06:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
06:15 Good Morning Iran
09:10 Kids Corner
10:10 Iranian TV Series
11:00 Children Program
12:00 Privatization
13:09 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network, Channel 2:

06:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
06:15 Children's Program
07:00 Foreigners' Shade
07:45 TV Programs Announcement
08:00 Automobile Era
08:30 Teaching Swimming
09:00 Teaching English
09:15 Preventing Disabilities
10:00 Interlude
10:20 Kids Corner
11:00 Focus on Living (teaching requirements in life)
12:00 Summer Program
12:30 Ashura Culture
13:09 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network, Channel 3:

07:30 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
07:45 Sports Program
08:00 Freshness
08:45 The Tops
09:00 Reflection
10:30 The Youth (in Khorasan)
11:00 Interlude
11:15 The Events in Cinema



BREST, France (July 13): The Dutch two-master "Aphrodite" (R) accompanies the brigantine "Thalassa" (L) leaving the port of Brest for a regatta off the coast on the first day of the assembly of old sailing ships "Brest 96".

(AFP PHOTO)

Brunei Swings for Sultan's $25 Million Birthday

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei (Reuter) – With the Prince of Wales and the "king of pop" at his side, the sultan of Brunei celebrated his 50th birthday on Monday in a style befitting his status as one of the world's richest men.

Sultan Sir Hassanal Bolkiah, prime minister, defense minister and absolute ruler of this oil-rich speck on the island of Borneo, is spending around $25 million for his birthday bash, government sources said.

About $15 million has been set aside for three apparently free concerts by Michael Jackson and his entourage.

The concerts will take place at the Jerudong Amusement Park – the largest in Southeast Asia – which never charges admission either for Brunei residents or foreign visitors.

Jackson arrived quietly on a chartered flight early Saturday, staying at a guest house on the sultan's sprawling estate bordering the amusement park.

His visit has been shrouded in secrecy. Government sources said two workers at Jerudong were disciplined for leaking word of his arrival to the press.

The British-educated Hassanal is the world's richest man according to *Fortune* magazine, which estimates his wealth at nearly $40 billion. The sultan's government disputes the figure and diplomats say it is difficult to separate the sultan's personal wealth from that of the national treasury.

Another $10 million has been spent on food and non-alcoholic drinks for the sultanate's 300,000 residents. The Bruneian capital of Bandar Seri Begawan is bedecked with bunting and flags for the occasion.

Workers have been adding the final touches to an eight-hectare (20 acres) extension of the Jerudong Amusement Park. It includes a 30,000 capacity amphitheater which Jackson will inaugurate with his series of concerts.

Hassanal sounded a sombre note in his birthday speech at his gold-domed palace, its 1,700 rooms making it bigger than the Vatican and the largest residential palace in the world.

The polo-playing potentate, whose family has ruled this jungle-draped kingdom for more than 500 years in what is now the world's longest dynasty, again reminded his people of the need to diversify the oil-based economy.

"Our mission is to diversify the national economy while reducing dependence on the oil and gas sector. This can be achieved if we have a proper plan and management that is really sustainable ...," he said.

Brunei, whose swashbuckling sultans once held sway over a pirate kingdom that stretched to the Philippines, is a "womb to tomb" welfare state.

There are no income or sales taxes. Education and health care are free. Low-interest loans are offered for cars, television sets and houses. Petrol prices are subsidized.

The full title of the country that has a per capita GDP income of $23,433 is Brunei Darussalam – "abode of peace".

Hassanal wields absolute power over Brunei, a British protectorate for a century until 1984 when it accepted independence from London, which still maintains a battalion of Gurkhas in the country.

India Stampedes Cap Litany of Crowd Disasters

NEW DELHI (Reuter) – The two stampedes that killed 60 Hindu worshippers in India on Monday were the latest in a series of crowd disasters, most of them involving Hindu pilgrims, which have plagued the country for 15 years.

The following is a list of the most serious cases since 1981:

December 4, 1981 – At least 45 children died in the historic monument of Qutab Minar in New Delhi when the electricity failed and, in a moment of panic, children tumbled over each other.

August 14, 1983 – About 53 Hindu pilgrims died when thousands of worshippers, stampeded at a religious festival in Bilaspur in the northern Himalayan state of Himachal Pradesh. The incident was triggered by the collapse of a shop in a row of stalls leading up to a shrine.

April, 1986 – At least 47 people were crushed to death in a mass panic at a crowded festival by the river Ganges in the northern holy city of Hardwar.

November 10, 1986 – Thirty-one people were crushed or suffocated to death when pilgrims at a Hindu shrine stampeded in darkness during an all-night procession in the northern town of Ayodhya.

August 12, 1991 – Eight Hindu pilgrims were killed and three injured in a stampede at a temple in Deoghar, in the eastern state of Bihar. A large number of devotees had arrived in the town from across India to honor Lord Shiva, one of the principal gods in the Hindu pantheon.

November 21, 1991 – Four pilgrims were killed and 29 were injured in a stampede in Hardwar, where more than half a million people had gathered to bathe in the Ganges. The rush occurred in a narrow lane leading to a temple on the banks of the river.

February 18, 1992 – Nearly 50 people were killed in a stampede during a Hindu bathing festival in the southern Tamil Nadu state as a crowd of at least two million, seeking to wash away their sins, surged around the sacred lake of Kumbakonam, near Madras.

August 11, 1992 – Six people were killed and 60 injured in a stampede that began when an elderly woman accidentally fell into a stream of devotees at a Hindu temple devoted to Hanuman, a monkey demi-god, in Ayodhya.

October 3, 1993 – At least 12 women were trampled to death during a stampede for free clothing in Tamil Nadu. The women, aged between 55 and 80, were killed when 5,000 people jostled for free clothing being distributed by a philanthropist.

November 23, 1995 – At least 130 people were killed and 500 injured in a stampede that followed a police baton charge on tribal protesters rallying in the western city of Nagpur to demand more jobs.

December 23, 1995 – At least 400, most of them children, were killed and up to 200 injured in a blaze and stampede at a school prize-giving in Dabwali, in the northern state of Haryana, when a large tent caught fire and collapsed on top of the audience.

July 15, 1996 – Thirty-nine Hindu devotees, including five children, were killed and dozens were injured when scores of worshippers stampeded through a temple complex at Ujjain in the central state of Madhya Pradesh.

July 15, 1996 – At least 21 people were killed and 40 seriously injured as Hindu devotees rushed to bathe in the Ganges in Hardwar.

Poisoning Hits More Than 4,000 Japanese Children

TOKYO (AFP) – A food poisoning outbreak in western Japan further spread Tuesday with more than 4,000 children taken ill from a potentially fatal bug, officials said.

As of Tuesday morning, the number of children affected in Sakai city, Osaka Prefecture, had reached 4,088, municipal officials said.

A total of 218 have been hospitalized, although 11 had been allowed home.

The children have been suffering from fever, diarrhea and blood in stools. Several hundred children began complaining of the symptoms on Saturday, and the number rose to 2,691 Sunday and to 3,791 Monday.

Health officials identified the cause as a colon bacillus called O-157 – blamed for some 1,500 cases of food poisoning nationwide so far this year.

French Customs Seize Largest Drug Haul Since 1972

CALAIS, France (AFP) – French customs seized heroin worth up to $16 million – France's biggest haul in almost 25 years – hidden among racing bikes, cameras and toilet paper aboard a British truck about to enter the channel tunnel, officials said Monday.

Officers seized 106 kilograms (225 pounds) of the substance at the channel port of Calais on July 11. The 40 year-old British driver of the trailer truck, belonging to a haulage firm, was in custody, Economic Ministry officials told a press conference.

The announcement followed one from the other end of the tunnel Friday, when British customs seized 120 kilograms of the drug ecstasy during a routine check on a car arriving from Belgium and the Netherlands. Three east London men were taken into custody.

The French officials said their seizure, made by officers monitoring the channel tunnel, was the largest such heroin haul since 1972.

The vehicle was transporting mountain and racing bikes, camera equipment and toilet paper from Belgium and the Netherlands.

As well as heroin, customs officers also found 20 kilograms of amphetamines, one kilogram of cocaine, 1.2 kilograms of ephedrine and 15 grams of cannabis, they said.

The truck had been spot-checked and the heroin found in a dozen boxes containing various consignments.

Earlier, French customs seized 400 kilograms of cannabis on July 4 aboard a coach registered in Spain and headed for Britain. The Spanish driver tried unsuccessfully to flee.

On July 8, customs discovered 70 kilograms of cannabis in a car driven by a Dutchman en route for Britain.



Could Infection Cause Mental Illness?

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania (AFP) — It's probably enough to send freudians into a frenzy — the notion, under investigation by a few psychiatrists, that a virus or bacterial infection could cause major mental illness.

"It may have less to do with whether you love your mother," says Jay Amsterdam, a University of Pennsylvania psychiatrist who is looking for viral infections in depressed patients.

The idea that germs could enter the brain and cause mental problems is not completely new, Amsterdam said, noting that state psychiatric hospitals used to be filled with tertiary syphilis patients.

More recently, some scientists suggested that mad cow disease has caused depression, followed by dementia, in a few people in Britain.

At the National Institute of Mental Health in Maryland, a group of scientists is finding connections between strep infections and obsessive-compulsive disorder.

Another group has suggested that infection in pregnant women might lead to schizophrenia in their children years later. Such links remain provocative but unproven for the moment.

Researchers emphasize that they believe infections will add to a mix of known factors causing mental illness rather than replace faulty genes and life experience as a primary cause.

In the case of depression, scientists are unsure if the fault lies with an actual virus or an autoimmune condition that mimics a viral infection.

Ten years ago, Amsterdam, working with another psychiatrist, began investigating links between human depression and a sort of "sad horse" virus called borna.

A few people have tested positive for this virus, of whom a disproportionate number are also clinically depressed, leading researchers to suspect a connection.

In 1985, Amsterdam and a group of colleagues tested 265 patients for the borna virus, and compared them with a group of 105 healthy control subjects.

The tests couldn't detect the virus itself but did pick up virus-fighting antibodies. Borna antibodies showed up in the blood of 12 of the depressed patients, but none of the healthy ones.

At the same time, other scientists were looking into the borna virus. Researchers in Europe were speculating that it was responsible for a high rate of suicides among farmers.

And at the University of Maryland, psychiatrist Royce Waldrip began to find borna antibodies in schizophrenics.

Virus expert Hillary Koprowski of Thomas Jefferson University, who has collaborated with these researchers, is skeptical that the depressed people really have the virus.

"I do not see enough evidence that people are infected with the borna virus," Koprowski says.

Exercise May Improve Heart-Protecting Chemicals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Older men and women who exercise improve their abilities to create natural drugs that fight heart attack, a study finds.

And the levels of these body chemicals are higher when they are most needed - in the morning, when the risk of a heart attack is highest, the study said.

The research looked at tissue plasminogen activator, TPA, an enzyme that dissolves clots. A clot that narrows or blocks a coronary artery can cut off blood flow to the heart muscle, leading to a heart attack.

It also measured levels of plasminogen activator inhibitor, PAI-1, which dissolves TPA, acting as a balance against too much of the anti-clotting enzyme.

Researchers in Seattle studied 16 men and nine women with an average age of 66 who were sedentary at the start of the six-month study. The study participants stayed overnight at a clinic, and blood samples were drawn while they slept. They then began a program of walking, jogging or bike riding three times a week.

The exercisers started with 30- to 45-minute workouts at a moderate 50 percent to 60 percent of their projected maximums as measured on a heart test, they worked up to a vigorous 45 minutes at 85 percent of their maximums. At the end of the study, they stayed again at the clinic for more overnight blood samples.

In the men, PAI-1 levels dropped 37 percent while TPA was unchanged, said the report in the American College of Sports medicine's journal, Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise. The drop in PAI-1 means the activity of the clot-busting TPA in the men's bloodstreams was less likely to be impeded, said researcher Wayne L. Chandler of the University of Washington.

In the women, TPA levels were up 20 percent, but PAI-1 levels were unchanged, the study said. This means the women also had more clot-busting protection, Chandler said.

Chandler could not explain why men had more PAI-1 but women had more TPA. "It was a little unexpected," he said.

But the bottom line in terms of protection against blood clots was apparently the same, regardless of the apparent mechanism, he said.

The findings fit the idea that exercise increases TPA levels and may in part account for endurance exercise's well-established protection against heart disease, Chandler said.

"That's what's kind of fun," he said. "Everybody tells you (exercise) is good for you and, all of a sudden, we are finding real biochemistry for it."

The TPA levels that resulted from exercise were far below those given as drugs to heart attack victims, Chandler said. A drug dosage might be 1,000 to 10,000 times the body's normal levels, he said.

Older people who want to boost their exercise as a way to boost their body chemicals should be sure first that they are up to the strain, Chandler said.

Leaping into intense exercise can trigger previously hidden health conditions, possibly leading to a heart attack.

However, other studies have shown that moderate exercise reduces the risk of death from many causes, including heart disease. And Chandler suspected that lower amounts of exercise might create some beneficial changes in TPA or PAI-1. But his study did not look at lower intensity or less time working out.

The study raises some interesting points, but does not prove that the body chemical changes actually reduce heart attacks, said a separate researcher, Dr. Joseph P. Broderick of the University of Cincinnati Medical Center.

The changes in TPA and PAI-1 levels may be real, but there were too few study participants to be sure the results were not a result of unrelated variations in the levels of the chemicals, Broderick said.

THOUGHT

EVERY soul is a melody which needs renewing.

Stephane Mallarme French essayist and poet

PRAYER

Noon............................13:11
Evening..........................20:41
Dawn (tomorrow)................ 4:10
Sunrise (tomorrow)............ 6:03

Today in History

1596 - Sir Francis Walsingham succeeds in unraveling Babington plot to murder England's Queen Elizabeth I, and establishes that mary Queen of Scots was implicated in plan.

1762 - Peter III, Tsar of Russia, is assassinated and is succeeded by Catherine II.

1791 - Massacre of Champ De Mars by Marquis de Lafayette restores order in Paris.

1880 - New penal code, based on that of France, is approved in Japan.

1890 - Cecil Rhodes becomes premier of Cape Colony in Africa.

1894 - Italian forces take Kassale, Sudan, from the dervishes.

1918 - Communists kill last Russian Tsar Nicholas II and his family in the Siberian city of Yekaterinburg.

1936 - Spain's civil war starts as General Francisco Franco leads army forces in revolt against government.

1945 - U.S. President Harry S. Truman, British Prime Minister Clement Atlee, and Soviet Union Leader Joseph Stalin meet at Potsdam, Germany, to settle the post World War II future of Europe.

1961 - New Constitution goes into effect in British Guiana.

1965 - U.S. B-52 bombers from Guam make their first strikes in Vietnam in support of allied ground operations.

1968 - Right-wing army officers overthrow Iraqi government.

1973 - Afghanistan is proclaimed republic following palace coup which ends 40-year rule of King Mohammed Zahir Shah.

1975 - U.S. astronauts and Soviet cosmonauts in Apollo and Soyuz spacecraft link up while in orbit and join hands.

1976 - Indonesia annexes East Timor as its 27th province.

1984 - Briton Donald Campbell breaks world land speed record, recording 648 kph (403 mph) in bluebird on dry bed of Lake Eyre, south Australia.

1988 - Police impose "shoot-on-sight" curfew in Hyderabad, Pakistan, after gunmen attack the mayor.

1990 - German Chancellor Helmut Kohl says all major obstacles to united Germany have been swept away.

1991 - Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and US President Bush announce a treaty to make historic cuts in intercontinental nuclear weapons.

1992 - Two car bombs kill at least 18 people and wound 140 in Lima's wealthiest district.

1993 - Pope John Paul II says celibacy in not essential to the priesthood, but gives no indication of softening one of central tenets of the Roman Catholic priesthood.

1994 - Brazil makes world cup soccer history with a fourth title.

1995 - Serb fighters attack the Muslim enclave of Zepa.

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A1	A1	E1	P3	D2	S1	R1		RACK 1
L1	T1	X8	I1	E1	P3	O1	2nd Letter Double	RACK 2
N1	I1	I1	A1	R1	E1	G2		RACK 3
Y4	A1	O1	O1	R1	C3	N1	4th Letter Triple	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 100-110

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

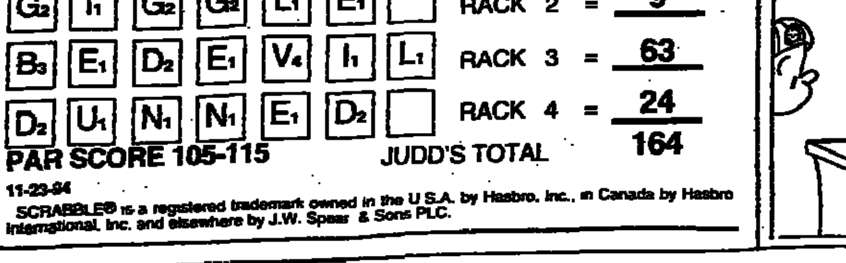
DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7- letter word from the letters in each row. To total points of your words, use scoring directions to right of each row. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words can be found in OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

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Here is the solution to yesterday's Scrabble

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD

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C3	U1	R1	A1	T1	E1	S1	RACK 1 =	68
G2	I1	G2	G2	L1	E1		RACK 2 =	9
B3	E1	D2	E1	V4	I1	L1	RACK 3 =	63
D2	U1	N1	N1	E1	D2		RACK 4 =	24

PAR SCORE 105-115 JUDD'S TOTAL 164

11-23-94

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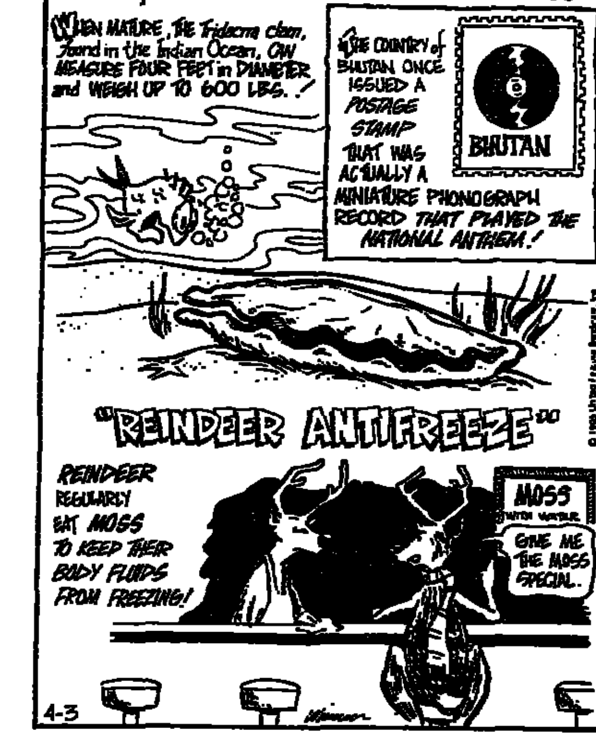
HEALTH CAPSULES®
by Michael A. Petti, M.D.

WILL MERCURY FILLINGS IN YOUR TEETH HARM YOU ?

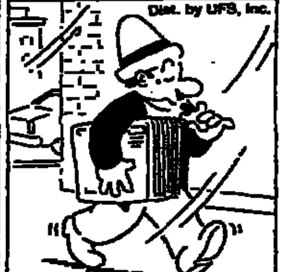
THERE IS NO DEFINITIVE EVIDENCE THAT THE MERCURY IN DENTAL AMALGAMS CAUSES ANY HARM.

Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!



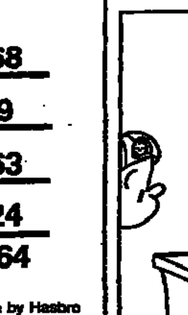
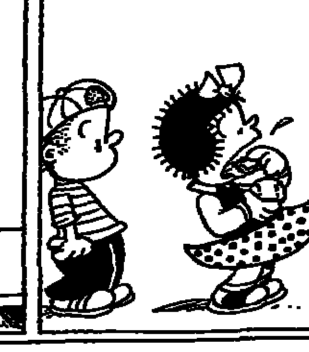
FERD'NAND ® by Henrik Rehr



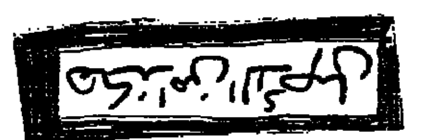




NANCY ® by Guy & Brad Gilchrist



All Wars Are Terrorist

The most common aim of terrorism, says the writer, is to achieve political objectives by subjecting a hostile leadership to internal pressure generated by violence against its civilian noncombatants. Since this tactic is used by all sides in all armed conflicts and wars, they can be labeled 'terrorist'.

'Hezbollah fighters are not terrorists'. The Lebanese Islamist militia won that unequivocal public testimonial from no less a personage than Raphael Eytan — no mean terrorist himself.

The leader of the hard-line Tzomet Party in Israel (who recently joined a tripartite coalition of right wing parties to support Benjamin Netanyahu's campaign for prime minister) is a former Israeli defense forces chief-of-staff recalled mainly for his share in engineering the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. His failure to halt the subsequent Falangist massacre at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps brought Eytan close to being the only IDF chief ever dismissed from office. Given his record and his unrelenting views, neither exhibiting much regard for human life, nor, indeed, much humanity of any kind, it is somewhat startling to hear Eytan grant Hezbollah a clean bill of health when every cub journalist routinely refers to its fighters as 'terrorists'.

But closer scrutiny finds that Eytan's sole criterion for 'terrorism' is on the technical plane of soldierly proficiency. In his book, a 'terrorist' is an untrained irregular, whereas the redoubtable skills and prowess of Hezbollah's formations convince him that its fighters should be elevated from the military inferiority of mere 'terrorists' (and to draw strategic conclusions unrelated to the topic of this article).

Eytan is of course free to use words as he finds fit, but his idiosyncratic appropriation of the term 'terrorist' flies in the face of accepted usage. Historians of World War II are unanimous in defining Germany's systematic bombing of civilian targets — an integral part of its *blitzkrieg* — as calculated terrorism, even if no one considers the *Luftwaffe* pilots who flattened residential neighborhoods and strafed refugees as less than superb technicians.

With all the due respect to Eytan's categories, mere mastery of the soldier's craft is inadequate as a distinction between terrorist and nonterrorist. Indeed, as that World War II example illustrates, terrorism must be defined as: systematic application of force against noncombatants, usually to a broader political end. (That definition incidentally endorses Eytan's 'nonterrorist' view of Hezbollah, for that organization — certainly when compared with other military formations active in the theater, not least the IDF — directs relatively little of its violence against civilians.)

The terrorist's immediate tactical objectives may vary. German air raids were designed to stampede the population on to the highways, thus hampering the actions of Germany's enemies while leaving the way free for the Panzers' advance. More recently, a similar end was pursued in the Bosnian civil war, where the massive application of terrorism, from methodical massacre to equally systematic mass rape, sought to engineer a forced exodus of 'alien' elements in the interests of 'ethnic cleansing'.

Terrorism is a logical offshoot of the 'total warfare' of our times. The polite myth that wars are waged by formations (armies) especially designated for that role (combat) — while the rest of society (noncombatants) sits on the sidelines to apland its champions — survives only in the sports stadium (and even there it is often a mere pretext for a general free-for-all). In total war, one may seek to defeat the adversary (i.e. force his political leadership to capitulate) by destroying his army. But that army being equipped and trained to defend itself (or, at worst, endure a pounding without falling apart), a swifter path to victory is systematic intimidation of the 'enemy' population, in the hope that the tormented civilians will force the political leadership into capitulation, or any other accommodation that well put an end to their sufferings.

In a nutshell, the most common aim of terrorism is to achieve (political) objectives by subjecting a hostile leadership to internal pressure generated by violence against 'its' civilian noncombatants. Set in such terms, it is almost impossible to recall an armed conflict in which the sides refrained from terrorism. As future illustrations from World War II, Anglo-American 'strategic bombing' of German cities (culminating in the Dresden inferno) sought to turn the German population against its Nazi rulers, while the nuclear bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were a cost-efficient way of outflanking Japan's defiant generals and convincing the political leadership to capitulate.

Such terrorism is no 20th century innovation. Ever since antiquity, siege tactics have included the systematic subjection of the beleaguered population to hunger and thirst, in the hope that it would induce the defiant garrison to surrender. Equally venerable is 'regime terrorism' applied by the ruler. All empires — the British learned from the Romans, the Romans from their predecessors — terrorized their captive populations to keep them submissive and isolate potentials rebels.

Other types of terrorist strategy are less obviously violent, but sometimes equally lethal. U.S. economic sanctions directed, respectively, at Cuba and Iraq, seek to subject their populations to suffering of a degree liable to induce the citizens to turn upon their leaders. American politicians never tire of denying any quarrel with the Cuban or Iraqi peoples, but that is who they starve of medicines and other necessities — the attendant results include increased infant mortality — in the pursuit of U.S. 'strategic' objectives.

Thus do civilian noncombatants — on both sides — become hostages or play things to be manipulated by rival power elites. Jewish tradition has its own wry portrayal of mutual terrorism in the joke about the drunken Cossack squaring up against a rival with the threat: 'If you beat my Jew, I'll beat yours!'

Terrorism in the Arab-Israeli Conflict

Terrorism has been a salient feature of the Arab-Israeli conflict from the outset. Commencing with bloody clashes between Jews and Arabs in pre-1948 Palestine, and continuing since Israeli independence with every form of cross-border incursion — from knife-bearing marauder to supersonic jet loaded with bombs — both sides have pursued their strategic objectives by terrorist means. In that pursuit, unarmed civilians — men, women and children, Jew and Arab — have been the targets of random violence. The victims are not selected for any private sin or crime; they are picked out as civilian members of a community which the perpetrators seek to 'activate' for their own political ends.

That remains true of terrorism 1996-style, whether employing suicide bomber or collective punishment of the population from which the bomber emerged. The latest fashion in random violence does not differ in principle from earlier manifestations. As ever, suffering is inflicted on persons of the 'hostile' community; the victims bear no individual guilt, serving merely as a means of turning the civilian population against its leadership.





The Hamas bomber does not poll Israeli bus passengers on their views regarding Palestinian rights before detonating himself. It makes no difference to him whether his victims are children orderly. His aim — or, more precisely, the aim of his dispatchers — is to provoke Israeli citizens against their government in the hope of derailing the Oslo peace process.

Similarly, a Palestinian laborer halted at the Israeli checkpoints at Erez is not grilled on his political views. Regardless of whether he supports Islamic Jihad or the People's Party, is a 'terrorist sympathizer' or abhors violence, he is turned back and denied access to his job in Israel. 'The purpose of the exercise', as envisaged by the incisive minds behind the closure, is to subject that laborer — and his family — to suffering that can be commuted into internal pressure on the Palestinian leadership to smash the Islamists and other dissidents. If children suffer from acute malnutrition, or die from denial of medical care, that is a necessary corollary of using the civilian population as helpless 'messengers'.

Terrorism in its various forms having been standard practice for decades, there seems to be little point in appealing to the better nature of either party, particularly given that each idea piously denies that its own actions are 'terrorist'. Also, however tempting the resort to the swift brutality of 'counter-insurgency' tactics, they offer no solution, merely training a new generation of avengers. There is no armed conflict that does not entail terrorism; it is accordingly vain to seek a remedy in the instruments of conflict.

Ultimately, one is left with the stale truth that there are no short cuts to ending terrorism. In every form — including the terrorism practiced by enemies of peace — terrorism has no remedy other than a resolution of the basic conflict.

(Courtesy the Third World Network Features)

Shevardnadze Calls For Resumption of Peace Talks



SHEVARDNADZE

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze called for an immediate resumption of peace talks with the separatist region of Abkhazia.

"I am sure the Georgian-Abkhazian talks will begin in the near future. I will participate in them as well," Shevardnadze said.

In his weekly address on national radio, the Georgian leader said the main issue would be the unconditional return of some 250,000 ethnic Georgian refugees to Abkhazia.

If the negotiations fail, "Georgia will be forced to look for other ways of restoring its territorial integrity," he said.

Shevardnadze did not specify his threat, but noted that the international community was prepared to send troops and use force in conflict zones.

"I call on everyone to think well about it, and especially Abkhazia," he said.

Abkhazia, a rich Black Sea province, broke away from Georgia in 1993 following a 13-month war.

About 1,500 Russian peacekeepers were deployed in the region in 1994 under the auspices of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the loose Confederation of Former Soviet Republics, of which Georgia is a member.

Georgia has offered Abkhazia broad autonomy on condition it remains part of Georgia, but the separatists have demanded full independence.

Shevardnadze praised Friday's decision by the UN Security Council, which agreed to keep 125 United Nations military observers in Georgia until Jan. 31, and urged the separatists to give up their fight for independence.

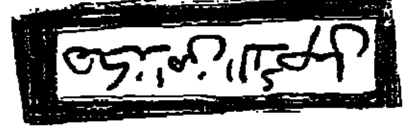
The council affirmed its support for the "sovereignty and territorial integrity" of Georgia, insisted that separatists allow Georgian refugees to return to their home, condemned ethnic killings and violence, and criticized the laying of land mines.

"The resolution ... is another stage in the isolation of aggressive separatism and another step toward peaceful settlement," said Shevardnadze.

Shevardnadze said a week ago that he was prepared to meet face-to-face with separatist leader Vladislav Ardzinba.

Ardzinba, who has balked at contacts with the Georgian government, has softened his stance lately amid increasing international isolation, saying Abkhazia will "soon be ready" to sign a peace agreement with Georgia.

Besides the United Nations, the comonwealth also is putting pressure on Abkhazia. Earlier this year, it agreed to strengthen sanctions against the breakaway province and Russian forces began imposing a tight embargo, detaining ships bound to the separatists' ports.



Peruvian Soft Drink Puts New Spin on Traditional Cola Wars

LIMA, Peru (AP) – Ask for a Cola in Peru and you might end up with a sparkling yellow drink that taste like bubble gum. That's Inca Kola — and it's giving a new twist to the old Cola wars.

"It's our own. It's national. That's why I drink it."

While the traditional Cola giants — Coca-Cola and Pepsi — slug it out in a local price war, this competitor touts itself as the national soft drink and has won a faithful following of many in this Andean country of 24 million.

"It's our own. It's national. That's why I drink it," office worker Manuel Elguerra said after dropping off two returnable bottles and buying another Inca Kola at a local street vendor's stand.

Inca Kola was invented in Peru in 1935 by the Jose R. Lindley E Hijos Company, which was started by English immigrants and still run by the family.

The company claims the drink, which many believe is made from a secret lemon grass formula, hasn't changed in 61 years — especially its distinctive taste that many tourists compare to a bubble gum flavor.

"The formula is a combination of essences and fragrances that even I don't know," said Luis Paredes, the company general manager.

This small business has grown outside of its Peruvian borders, and Inca Cola is now made in Ecuador, Bolivia and the United States, and also marketed in Europe and Japan.

But Peru is still home to this fizzy drink, which locals like to gulp down with "criollo" cuisine like ceviche — diced raw fish marinated in lemon juice, and aji de gallina, a plate of shredded chicken in a spicy cream sauce.

That doesn't mean Inca Cola is without competition. In fact, it's now in a war with Coca-Cola as to which dominates the Peru soft-drink market.

Inca Cola claims to dominate the all-important Lima market, which accounts for more than 50 percent of Peruvian soft drink sales, with a 32 to 33 percent share.

But Coca-Cola says it is the top seller with 33.7 percent of the Lima soft drink sales and 33 percent of the national market. Inca Cola concedes Coca-Cola outsells Inca Kola in the rest of the country.

In addition, Coca-Cola and Pepsi are now embroiled in a price war, slashing prices to entice consumers to buy again after an economic slowdown in Peru hurt sales.

So far Inca Kola has resisted reducing its price, relying on Peruvians to drink another 117 million liters (31 million gallons) this year.

At El Mordisco Restaurant, an eatery in a lower-middle class section of the city, head waiter Pedro Lezama said Inca Kola has a slight edge over Coca-Cola.

"Maybe its because its the national flavor, or is tastier perhaps. The people prefer it," Lezama said.

The restaurant sells four 24-bottle cases of Inca Cola a week, compared with two to three of Coca-Cola, and only a case every two weeks of Pepsi, he said.

Miguel Diaz and his wife, Rosa, were finishing off their third bottle of Inca Kola after plates of ceviche and rice with shellfish at the restaurant.

"It's a tradition here. Everybody drinks Inca Kola with criollo food. Me, I love Coca-Cola, but when I eat I like Inca Kola."

"It's a tradition here. Everybody drinks Inca Kola with criollo food," Miguel Diaz said. "Me, I love Coca-Cola, but when I eat I like Inca Kola."

NBC, Microsoft Join Forces to Challenge CNN

NEW YORK (AFP) – For the first time since it flipped on the power switch 16 years ago, CNN is about to face its first direct challenge in the form of MSNBC, an all-news cable network forged by NBC and Microsoft, backed by an on-line service.

It was to be launched on Monday.

The new network selected its launch date with care, just days ahead of the Olympic opening Friday. NBC has the U.S. broadcast rights to the games in Atlanta, Georgia, and MSNBC will be doing its utmost to outdo the Atlanta-based Cable News Network.

NBC, the nation's most-watched television network, and Microsoft, the world's leading software maker, each are contributing $200 million over five years in the joint cable venture announced in December. Microsoft also is to chip in another $220 million to NBC as its ticket into the cable industry.

It will mark Microsoft's second foray into journalism this year; the company launched a politics-and-culture on-line magazine on the Internet June 24 called *Slate*.

Microsoft chief Bill Gates is hoping to get a head start on the coming convergence of computer and media services, and to woo consumers both to MSNBC and its cohort on-line service.

That means finding ways to go a bit deeper into the news of the day, selecting personalized news packages based on each viewer's interests or describing the potential personal impact of news developments in specific areas such as taxes.

But not everything will be ready for the launch date, which has been moved up in a hurry to take advantage of the viewership potential that goes with the surge of interest in the Olympic, and the Republican and Democratic national party conventions in August. MSNBC at first will be broadcasting just 14 hours a day.

It is banking, however, on its appeal to viewers with newscasters who already are known nationally from broadcast television, and who boast the kind of name recognition CNN anchors have struggled to build.

MSNBC, based near Manhattan in northern New Jersey, will debut in 22 million homes with cable hookups, about one third the number of homes that are receiving CNN. MSNBC officials are banking on making it into 40 million homes within five years pending agreements with more cable companies.

But the real viewing audience of course would be much smaller. An average of 480,000 homes actually tuned-in would be "a great success" in the first 18 months of the start-up, NBC chief Robert Wright said.

In its top viewing hours, CNN attracts about double that number.

Bacteria Causes Growing Health Threat in U.S. Water Supply

WASHINGTON (AP) – Once seen as causing little more than a stomachache, microscopic waterborne bugs are turning deadly and forcing health officials to shift priorities as they try to make drinking water safe for a changing population.

For years, the Environmental Protection Agency has focused on potential cancer-causing chemicals as the main drinking water threat.

But now water agencies and federal health officials concede the more immediate concern is waterborne bacteria, parasites and viruses — some of which were largely ignored, or even unknown, until a few years ago.

For the past week, people in the U.S. capital have been reluctant to drink their water. Boiling orders were issued, then canceled. Finally, officials poured more chlorine into the system.

The reason: There were signs that Washington's aging water pipes are full of bacteria.

The urgency surrounding waterborne pathogens has grown as more Americans become susceptible to the illnesses they cause, health experts say.

"Most of these organisms have been around for years, but we're just now beginning to detect them," said Dennis Juranek, an expert in parasitic diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Only when people began reporting severe illnesses and even dying from such bugs did they set off alarms, he said.

For most healthy people, the damage is limited to a brief bout of intestinal discomfort, sometimes even mistaken for the flu.

But for those suffering from AIDS or HIV infection, cancer patients and the elderly — whose immune systems cannot ward off bacterial attack — drinking water can become deadly.

Some of the emerging pathogens are still mostly a mystery to health experts. Some, such as cryptosporidium, aren't stymied by chlorine, the most successful and widely used disinfectant in drinking water.

According to the CDC, between 900 and 1,000 people a year die and another million people are sickened from microbial illnesses from drinking water. Other estimates put deaths as high as 1,200 and estimated illnesses at more than 7 million. Many cases are never reported to doctors.

Nevertheless, at federal agencies and in Congress, microbial problems were "put on the back shelf" until just the last few years, said Diane Vande Hei, executive director of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies.

The health threat crystallized in 1993 when 100 people — most of them elderly or otherwise susceptible to illness — died in Zmilwaukee in an outbreak of cryptosporidium in the city's drinking water. More than 400 others got sick.

"It is a serious issue, an emerging threat. We think it needs significant focus," said EPA administrator Carol Browner. Her agency already has shifted some of its focus in dealing with pollutants and plans a five-year, $50 million effort to learn more about microbial pollution.

But the problem is likely to get worse before it gets better, as susceptible populations grow and scientists discover yet more pathogens.

"Waterborne disease outbreaks caused by protozoan parasites appear to be on the rise," concludes C.R. Sterling, a researcher at the University of Arizona. "One can't help but wonder how many more organisms with the potential for waterborne transmission await discovery."

Singapore's Electronics Sector Faces Hard Times

SINGAPORE (AFP) – Singapore's electronics industry, the lynchpin of its manufacturing sector, is hurting under a cyclical slowdown in the global computer market that has caused inventories to pile up and prices to drop.

Disk-drive maker Maxtor Peripherals last week laid off 800 employees, saying the cutback was necessary to get "cost in line".

Maxtor and other disk-drive makers are reported to be scaling down production — in turn affecting component suppliers and contract manufacturers.

Multimedia sound-card maker Aztech Systems Ltd. has declared a loss of 32.5 million Singapore dollars (U.S.$23.2 million) in January-June, writing off its entire $15 million investment in U.S.-based Reveal Computer Products.

Aztech, which saw a run on its stock, said inventory writedowns and disposal of CD-ROM drives caused by continuing price declines and "inventory dumping" by competitors was to blame for a large chunk of the losses.

Its rival, Creative Technology Ltd., had reported losses of $46.7 million during the quarter ending March, attributing it mainly to price cuts.

Semiconductor-manufacturer Chartered Semiconductor has experienced a price erosion of five percent to 10 percent in the past few months, and it is expected to persist in the next three months, said Investment House Ing Barings.

David Toh, an analyst with the Investment House, told AFP that the electronics sector was suffering from the "spillover impact" of the slowdown in computer demand in key markets.

"Computer sales to the U.S. and Europe are not growing as fast as expected. Sales to Asia are growing but that it is not compensating for the slowdown in the U.S. and Europe, which account for 75 to 80 percent of the global computer market," Toh said.

Electronics and related products account for more than 50 percent of manufacturing output and nearly 15 percent of the gross domestic product of Singapore.

Last year electronics output reached a record $58.2 billion, a growth of 19 percent over 1994, leading the city-state's economy to grow by a robust 8.9 percent. First-quarter economic growth this year was a hefty 10.7 percent.

A proliferation of multimedia games and educational software, the launch of Microsoft's much-hyped Windows 95 operating system and the growing popularity of the Internet stoked up demand for computers.

Jimmy Chew, managing director of semiconductor-equipment manufacturer Advanced Systems Automation, blamed an inventory build-up after a weaker-than-expected Christmas season last year for the slowdown in computer sales.

"But nobody had time to bother about it then," said Chew.

Capital spending in the global semiconductor sector outpaced sales last year with an investment-to-sales ratio of 26.5 percent.

An analyst with Crosby Securities said the outlook for the electronics sector would improve late this year or the first quarter of 1997 on an easing off of inventories and further cuts in computer prices.

Toh of Ing Barings warned: "The assumption here is that Christmas demand will pick up. If that doesn't change, if consumer sentiment doesn't improve, we will be headed for rough times."

The government has projected 15 percent growth for the electronics sector this year and 7.5-8.5 percent overall economic growth for the whole of 1996.

Trade and Industry Minister Yeo Cheow Tong played down concern over the slowdown in electronics demand.

"The electronics sector has ups and downs," he told reporters recently. "The computer industry had a very rapid ramp-up last year and early this year and I think you should expect the sector to have a little bit of a breather.

"But having said that we must not forget that it is still very rapid growth," he said.

Astronaut Sets Duration Record for American in Space

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Astronaut Shannon Lucid, traveling aboard Russia's Mir space station, became the first American Monday to spend 115 straight days in space, NASA announced.

Lucid, a 53-year-old grandmother who was transported via U.S. space shuttle to Mir last March, said in a televised news conference of her record duration, "I hope it will not hold very long."

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) informed her last week that her return trip to earth, scheduled for early August, would have to be delayed at least six months because of technical problems.

The space shuttle Atlantis, which was to have picked her up, has been grounded until September in order to check a potential rocket problem.

"It's a new challenge. It adds a unique flavor to the flight," said the seasoned veteran of four previous shuttle missions.

Lucid, who holds a doctorate in chemistry and biochemistry,

(Contd on Pg.14)

Growth Is Not Eradicating Poverty

PARIS (AFP) – Economic growth is failing to improve conditions for many living in developing countries, where 1.3 billion people – or one third of the population – live below the poverty threshold, according to an annual UN report.

The report, due to be published by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), shows that economic growth does not always equate with human development. This is due to either unequal distribution of income, neglect of basic needs (social protection, water, healthcare) in favor of other spending (military sector, prestige hospitals for an elite), or the reduction of social budgets.

For economic growth to benefit human development, the UNDP explains, it must contain several elements: full employment and security of income, participation for all in the democratic process, an equitable distribution of wealth, social cohesion, cultural enrichment and sustainable development for future generations.

This must be backed up by making social spending a priority, and making economic opportunities such as land and credit available to everyone. The absence of such social progress may itself compromise economic progress, the report says.

Herewith a summary of the UN report by region.



Southern Asia:

* Since 1980, the GDP has increased by more than five percent a year, and the GDP per person by three percent.



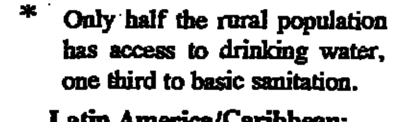
* Military spending totaled $14 billion in 1994.
* 560 million people are classified as poor (half the world total), 600 million suffer from malnutrition, 250 million do not have access to drinking water, and 850 million no access to basic sanitation.
* One third of newborn babies are under-weight, 80 percent of pregnant women suffer form anemia, 48 million children do not have access to primary school.
* In India, between 14 and 100 million children work; the figure is between 2 and 19 million in Pakistan, and between 5 and 15 in Bangldesh.

East Asia:

* Since 1960, the revenue per inhabitant has increased by more than five percent each year, the highest growth rate in the world.
* There are 170 million poor, 100 million children have no access to primary school, one million women are illiterate.

Southeast Asia/Pacific:

* Only 55 percent of the rural population has access to clean drinking water, and 41 percent to basic medical care.
* The maternal mortality rate is 442 per 100,000 live births.



* Only half the rural population has access to drinking water, one third to basic sanitation.

Sub-Saharan Africa:

* In 30 years, the ratio of military spending to socail spending has gone from 27 to 43 percent.
* 215 million people live in poverty, 120 million adults are illiterate, 170 million people do not have enough to eat.
* More than 80 million children of school age do not attend school.
* More than 20 percent of children work.
* Maternal mortality rates reach 29 per 100,000 births.
* There is one doctor for 18,000 inhabitants (one per 390 in industrialized countries).
* 1.3 million hectares of agricultural land turn to desert each year.

Arab countries:

* Between 1960 and 1993, real income grew by 3 percent per year.
* 73 million are poor, ten million underfed, 60 million illiterate.

Latin America/Caribbean:

* The real GDP increased by more than four-fifths in 20 years.
* 150 million are poor, more than six million children are undernourished.
* 56 percent of the rural population has access to drinking water.
* Maternal mortality: 180 deaths for every 100,000 births.
* Less than half of all children going to school reach the fifth year.
* Between ten and 25 percent of children work.

Industrialized countries:

* The real GDP per head increased by more than three percent per year between 1960 and 1993.
* There are more than 100 million poor, more than five million homeless.
* More than 30 million unemployed.

U.S. Under Pressure to Fight Child Labor in Asia, Elsewhere

WASHINGTON (AFP) -- The Clinton administration, under mounting pressure to fight child labor, is trying to address the issue through international organizations and lending agencies, Labor Secretary Robert Reich said.

But Reich, who described the employment of up to several hundred million children worldwide as "truly disturbing," told legislators a U.S. effort to set up a working group on trade and labor standards at the World Trade Organization (WTO) "is slow going."

Civic pressure has been mounting in the United States to get tough on countries with the most egregious child labor practices, with Asian countries drawing the sharpest criticism.

According to the Geneva-based International Labor Organization, 30.1 percent of children aged 10-14 work in Bangladesh, 17.7 percent in Pakistan, 14.4 percent in India, 11.6 percent in China, 45 percent in East Timor and Nepal, and 9.2 percent in Vietnam.

Several bills pending in Congress would curb imports from countries that commit extreme labor abuses against children or ban non-humanitarian aid to countries that do not have or fail to enforce child labor laws.

A bill introduced by Republican representative Christopher Smith would also require the United States to oppose loans from agencies such as the Asian Development Bank and International Monetary Fund to countries that lack or fail to enforce laws against child labor.





The administration is notably reluctant, however, to address the issue unilaterally.

"It seems to me that it is very important, where possible, to get a multilateral approach – it is a much more powerful approach," Reich said. "I would like to try to exhaust all the areas we have through international lending, through international treaties, through other international fora."

He noted that the United States risks being accused of hypocrisy for lecturing other countries about labor practices while garment-industry sweatshops continue to flourish here.

Reich also endorsed efforts to condition multilateral loans on the labor practices of recipient countries. "There should be a very strong human right component" to international lending, he said. "We should not be subsidizing employment by very young children."

But the real star of a house hearing Monday wasn't Reich but Kathie Lee Gifford, a perky and wildly popular television talk show hostess who was caught off guard this year by charges that inexpensive clothing bearing her name was made by child laborers in foreign factories.

Gifford packed a news conference and later drew dozens of photographers into the wood-paneled hearing room, where she described her own campaign to ensure that factories making her line of clothing do not use child labor or exploitative labor practices.

Basketball superstar Michael Jordan, the most prominent spokesman for Nike, has also been dogged by accusations that his "Air Jordan" shoes were made by underaged workers in Indonesia.

Nike denied the allegation, saying those shoes were made in Taiwan, but many of its other shoes are made in Indonesia.

That two household-name celebrities found themselves mired in the child labor issue, however, has undoubtedly fulled public awareness of the issue in recent months – as well as a bipartisan effort to fight child labor abuses.

U.S. laws bar the import of ivory, endangered species, and goods made by prison labor, democratic representative Tom Harkin said in a statement: "If we protect turtles, elephants and inmates, it makes sense to protect children."

Security Council Rules Out Immediate Response on Arrests

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) – The UN Security Council appeared to rule out an immediate response after the French defense minister called for a decision on the arrest of indicted Bosnian war criminals.

Security Council President Alain Dejammet of France, asked by reporters whether the Security Council would discuss the call by Defense Minister Charles Millon, said that the issue was being discussed "right now by European foreign ministers in Brussels."

He noted that high representative Carl Bildt, in charge of overseeing the civilian aspects of the Bosnian peace process, was also in Brussels.

In Brussels, French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette appeared to play down Millon's statement, saying that it was up to Bildt to evaluate the need for any change in the mandate of the NATO-led Implementation Force (IFOR).

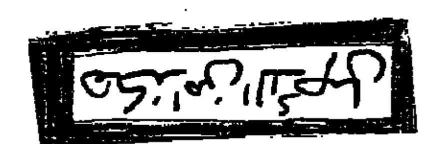
IFOR's current mandate does not specifically envisage the pursuit of war criminals who include Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and military commander Ratko Mladic, considered as an obstacle to the holding of Bosnian elections in September.

Speaking in Sarajevo, Millon said that "France hopes the Security Council will deliberate and take a decision," on seeking the arrest of wanted war criminals.

UN spokeswoman Sylvana Foa meanwhile told a news briefing here that Bildt, who had been expected in New York later this week, had pushed back his visit here to July 31.

Western diplomats said that no Security Council intervention was likely on such sensitive issues as the arrest of war criminals and the possible reimposition of sanctions without agreement among the five "Contact Group" members.

The Contact Group includes Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States.



The Eighth Imam of the Infallible Household of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (S)

Tehran Times Service

Imam Reza (AS) (Ali bin Musa) was the son of the seventh Imam and according to well-known accounts was born in 148/765 and martyred in 203/817.

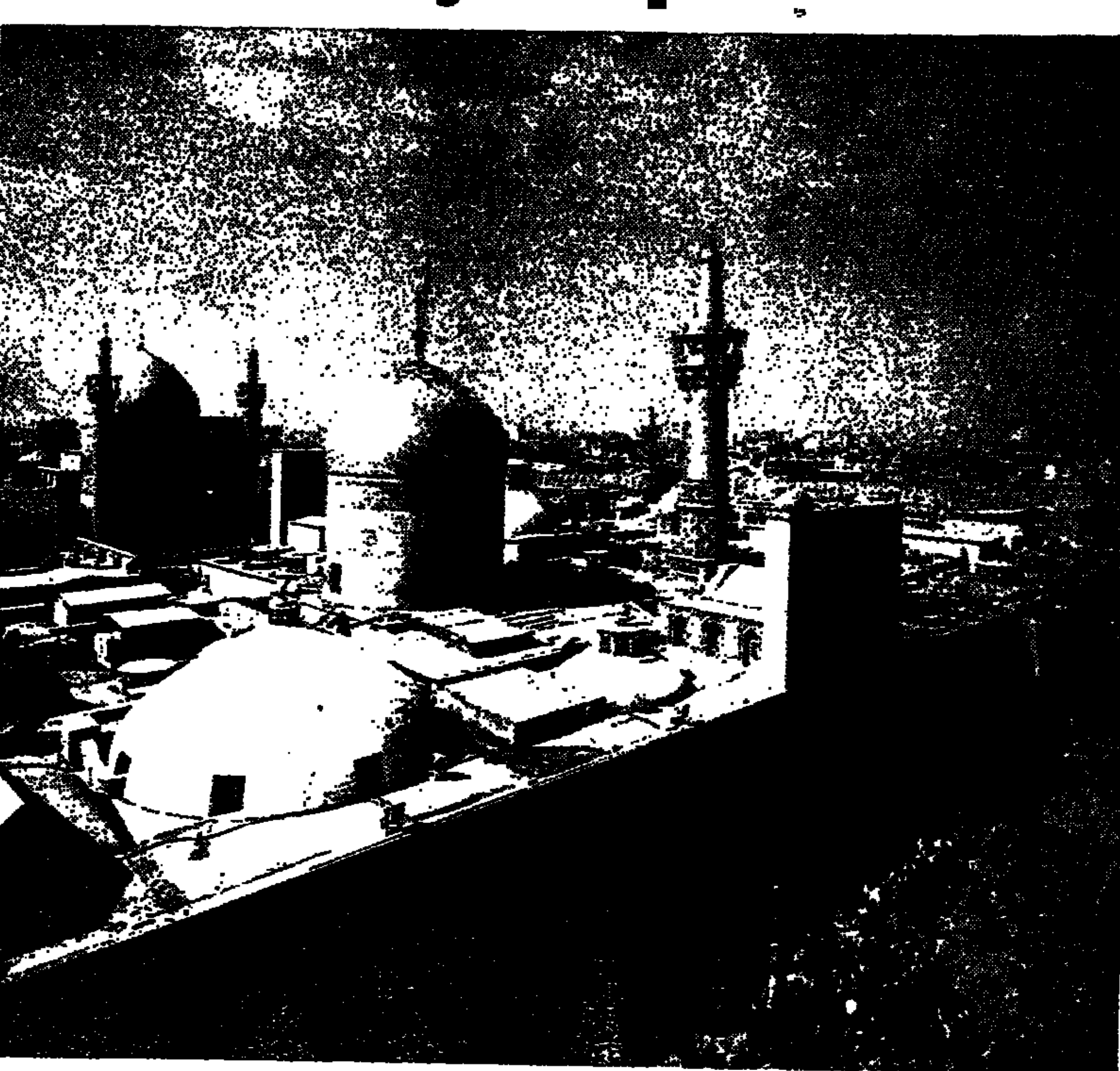
The eighth Imam reached the imamate, after the death of his father, through Divine Command and the decree of his forefathers. The period of his imamate coincided with the caliphate of Harun and then his sons Amin and Ma'mun.

After the death of his father, Ma'mun fell into conflict with his brother Amin which led to bloody wars and finally the killing of Amin, after which Ma'mun became caliph.

Until that day the policy of the Abbasid caliphate toward the Shi'as had been increasingly harsh and cruel. Every once in a while one of the supporters of Ali ('Alawis) would revolt, causing bloody wars and rebellions which were of great difficulty and consequence for the caliphate.

The Shi'a Imams would not cooperate with those who carried out these rebellions and would not interfere with their affairs.

The Shi'ites of that day, who comprised a considerable population, continued to consider the Imams as their religious leaders to whom obedience was obligatory and believed in them as the real caliphs of the Holy Prophet (S).



They considered the caliphate to be far from the sacred authority of their Imams, for the caliphate had come to seem more like the courts of the Persian kings and Roman emperors and was being run by a group of people more interested in worldly rule than in the strict application of religious principles.

The continuation of such a situation was dangerous for the structure of the caliphate and was a serious threat to it.

Ma'mun thought of finding a new solution for these difficulties which the seventy-year-old policy of his Abbasid predecessors had not been able to solve.

To accomplish this end he chose the eighth Imam as his successor, hoping in this way to overcome two difficulties: first of all to prevent the descendants of the Prophet (S) from rebelling against the government since they would be involved in the government themselves, and secondly, to cause the people to lose their spiritual belief and inner attachment to the Imams.

This would be accomplished by having the Imams become engrossed in wordily matters and the politics of the caliphate itself, which had always been considered by the Shi'ites to be evil and impure. In this way their religious organization would crumble and they would no longer present any dangers to the caliphate.

Obviously, after accomplishing these ends, the removal of the Imam would present no difficulties to the Abbasids.

In order to have this decision put into effect, Ma'mun asked the Imam to come to Marw from Medina.

Once he had arrived there, Ma'mun offered him first the caliphate and then the succession to the caliphate. The Imam made his apologies and turned down the proposal, but he was finally induced to accept the successor, with the condition that the would not interfere in governmental affairs or in the appointment or dismissal of government agents.

This event occurred in 200/814. But soon Ma'mun realized that he had committed an error, for there was a rapid spread of Shi'ism, a growth in the attachment of the populace to the Imam and an astounding reception given to the Imam by the people and even by the army and government agents.

Ma'mun sought to find a remedy for this difficulty and had the Imam poisoned and martyred. After his death the Imam was buried in the city of Toos in Iran, which is now called Mashhad.

Ma'mun displayed great interest in having works on the intellectual sciences translated into Arabic. He organized gatherings in which scholars of different religions and sects assemble and carried out scientific and scholarly debates.

The eighth Imam also participated in these assemblies and joined in the discussions with scholars of other religions. Many of these debates are recorded in the collections of Shi'a hadiths.

Fisheries Measures to Prevent Extinction of Fish Species

By Kambakhsh Khalaji

BABOLSAR, Mazandaran Province — The fisheries activities are carried out to materialize the government's policies on meeting the protein needs, creating job opportunities and helping the development of the country.



Farming Shrimps of Gomishan Center

Our country's population growth indicates that we will not have a bright future if we don't have certain plans for utilizing our natural resources to meet our foodstuff requirements. At present, the annual fish catch is around 350,000 tons, i.e., 3.9 kilograms per capita about 3.5-kilogram less than that of the developing countries.

Accommodating 114 species, 63 sub-species, and 14 races of fishes, the Caspian Sea plays an invaluable role in economic and social development of Mazandaran Province. There are some shortcomings and restrictions which should be removed in order to use aquatic resources. Preventing the marine ecosystem from pollution, creating infrastructure facilities, carrying out different projects on aquatic life and specifying the authorized fishing limits, introducing modern methods of fishing and improving the traditional ones, providing welfare facilities for the fishermen, and meeting the needs for the culture of fish improvement are some issues which should be given due weight.

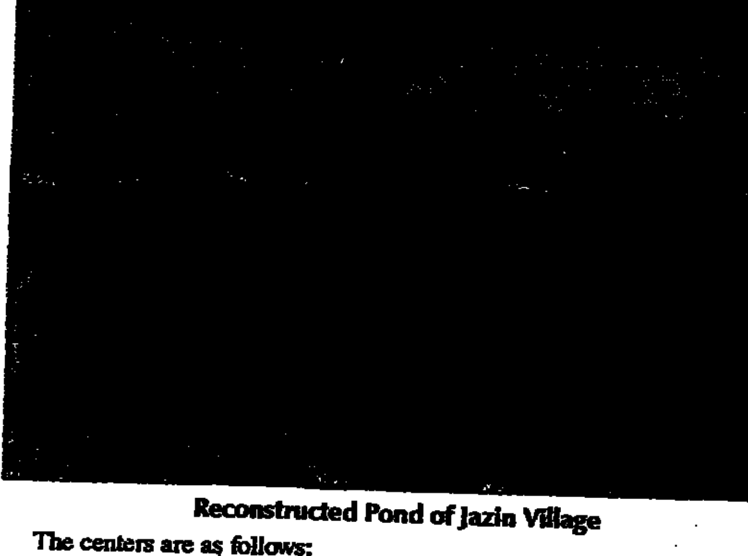


A Pond Being Reconstructed

To achieve Iran Fisheries Company's objectives, the expert groups have been organized in Mazandaran Province to work in the following fields:

1) Research Section: The provincial fisheries research center which was set up in 1987 has six subsections: Hydrology, Reserves Evaluation, Aquatic Life Sicknesses, Reproduction and Culture, Fisheries Products Technology, and Biology. The center has implemented several projects and some are underway.

2) Reproduction Section: Due to overfishing and river pollution in recent decades, the number of the Caspian Sea's major species of fishes has considerably decreased. So, Iran Fisheries Co. has established some fish reproduction centers to make for the aforesaid loss.



Reconstructed Pond of Jazin Village

The centers are as follows:

-Shahid Bahonar Cool-Water Fish Reproduction Center in Kelar-Dasht

-Cyprinoid and Caviar Fish Reproduction Center in Sari Shahid Rajaei Workshop

-Shahid Marjani Caviar Fish Farming and Reproduction Center

-Gomishan Shrimp Culture and Reproduction Center

Fish Farming in Mazandaran Waters

Mazandaran Province, with an average annual rainfall of 600 mm, is considered as one of the major producers of aquatic products. Today, the province's production reaches 10,341 tons per year—22 percent of the country's overall production.

The main activities concerning fish farming in Mazandaran Province are as follows:

1) Fish Farming in Cool-Water Ponds

2) Fish Farming in Warm-Water Ponds

3) Fish Farming in Water Resources

4) Fish Farming in Cages

Angling for Caviar Fishes

During the First Five-Year Plan, Iran Fisheries Company (I.S.P.) has caught 10,528 tons of caviar fishes, having 1,314 tons of different caviars. The lion's share of the production—7,432 tons of caviar fishes and 915 tons of caviar equaling 70 percent of the company's total production —was for Mazandaran Province.

Fisheries Ports

In addition to construction projects implemented in the first plan with over Rls.10,000 million capital, Iran Fisheries Co. is establishing 2 multipurpose ports, Amir-Abad Port and Babolsar Port. Iran Ports and Shipping Organization is also setting up another multipurpose port, Fereidoun-Kenar Port. They can play a significant role in the country's fisheries activities.

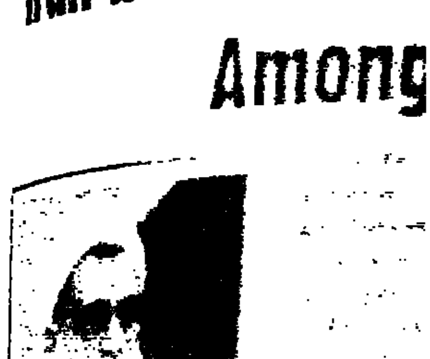


Farming Cyprinoid Fish

Netanyahu Not Committed to Oslo Acc

Iran and Pakis

Among





Russian Offens

Against Che

